

TRS-80[®] COMPUTER

CAT. NO. 68-2030

Whizkids[™]

ALEC AND
SHANNA
STARRING IN

THE COMPUTER TRAP

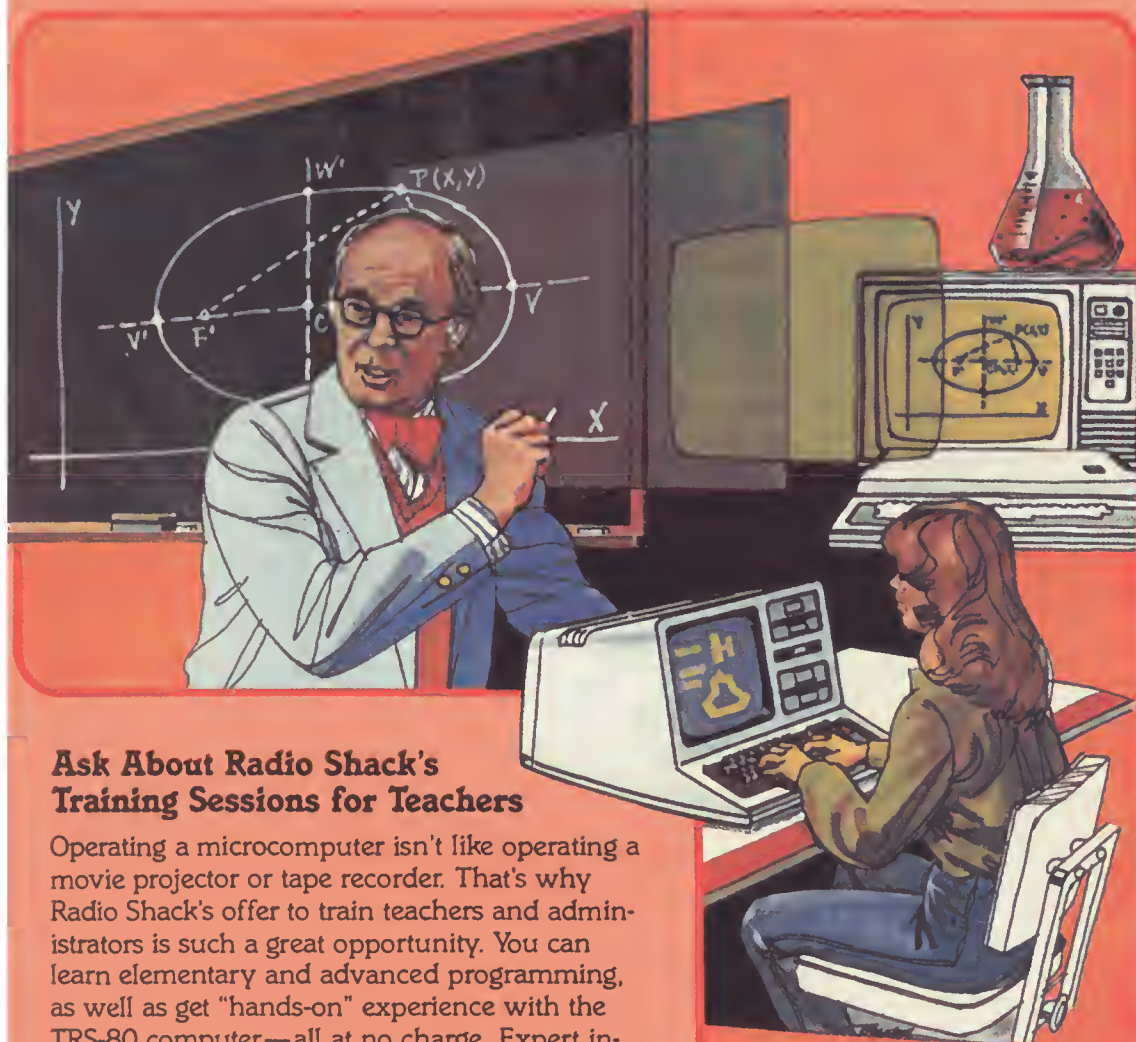


DICK
AYERS
AND
CHIC
STONE

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Radio Shack®

The biggest name in little computers®
A DIVISION OF TANDY CORPORATION

TRS-80 COMPUTER

Whiz Kids™

ALEC
AND
SHANNA



STARRING IN

**THE METRO CITY
WATERFRONT**

**THE GATES INTO THE
GIANT SHIPYARDS ARE
PADLOCKED AT NIGHT,
BUT THAT DOESN'T
STOP THOSE WANTING
TO GET INSIDE FROM
DOING SO...**

THE COMPUTER TRAP

HEY, BOSS,
DO YA THINK
THAT ELECTRIC
MOTOR'S **STRONG**
ENOUGH FOR A
FAST GETAWAY?

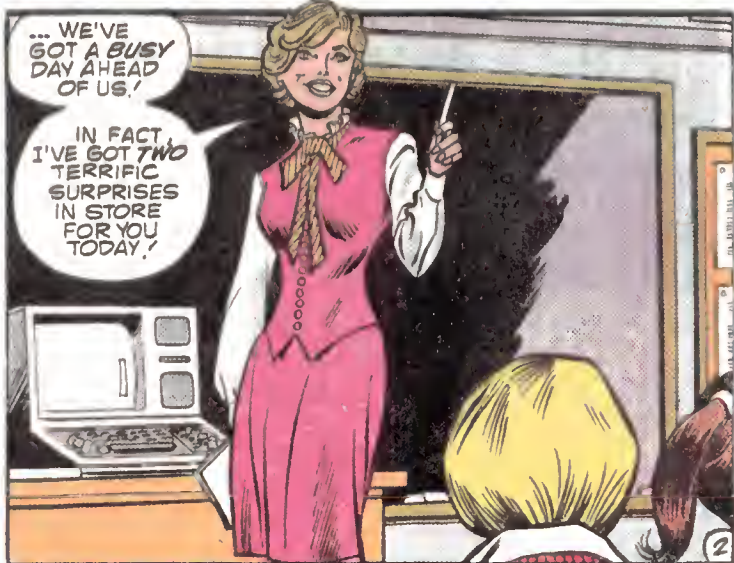
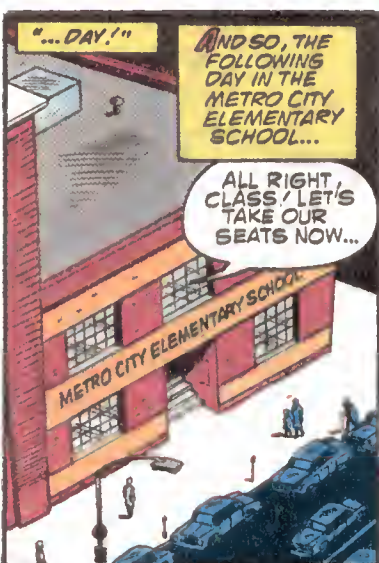
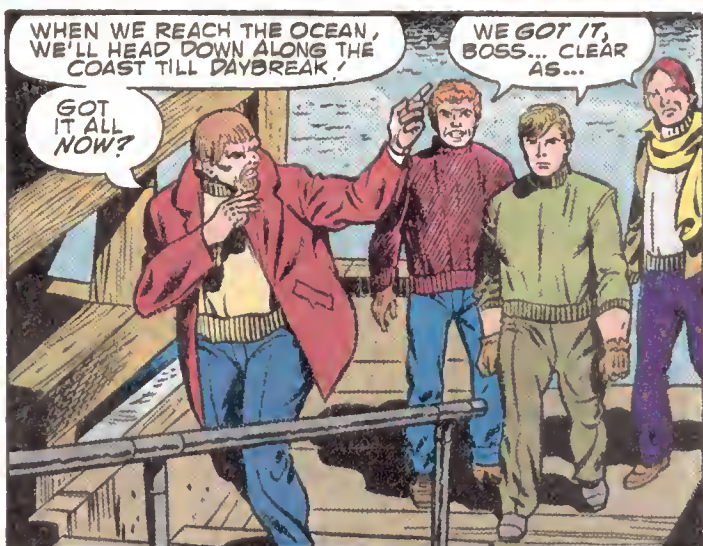
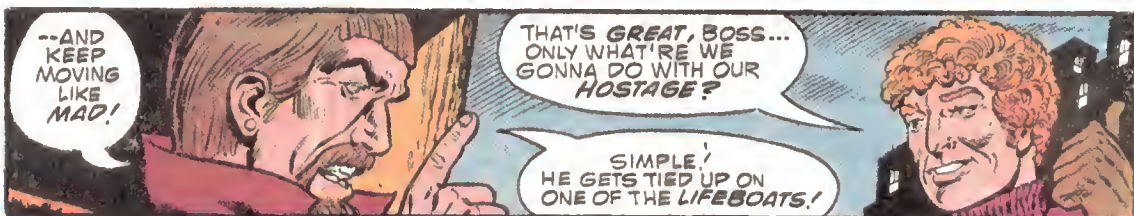
YEAH!
THERE'S
GONNA BE
FIVE OF US
IN THIS
BOAT!

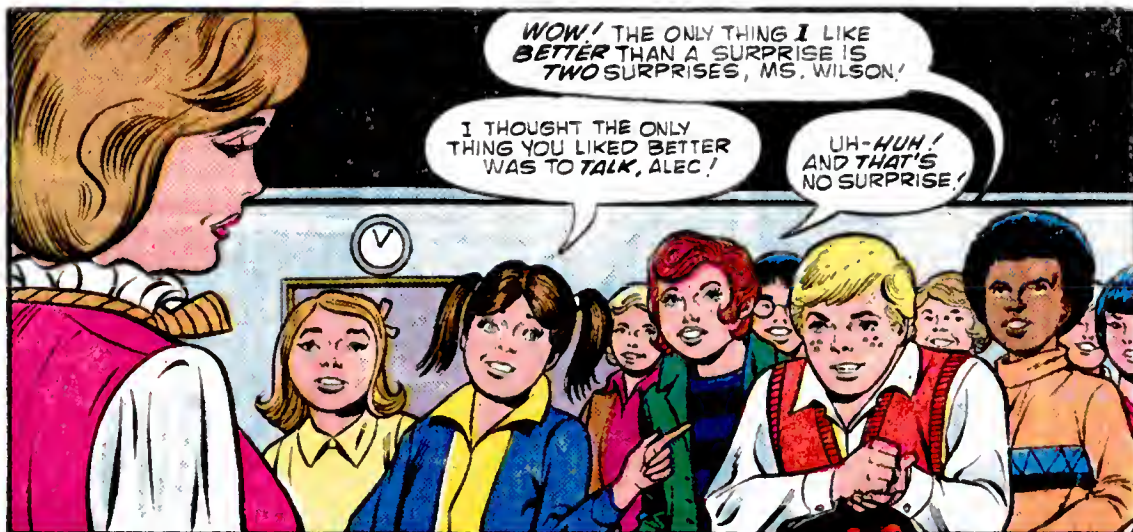
USE YOUR **BRAINS!** THAT
ENGINE RUNS **QUIET...** NO
NOISE, GET IT? IT'LL GET US
TO OUR **40-FOOTER** ACROSS
THE RIVER...

... WHERE WE'LL
BE WAITING FOR
THEM TO DROP THE
**WATER-TIGHT
MONEY BAG**
TIED TO A **YELLOW
BUOY** WITH A
FLASHING LIGHT!

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WOW! THE ONLY THING I LIKE BETTER THAN A SURPRISE IS TWO SURPRISES, MS. WILSON!

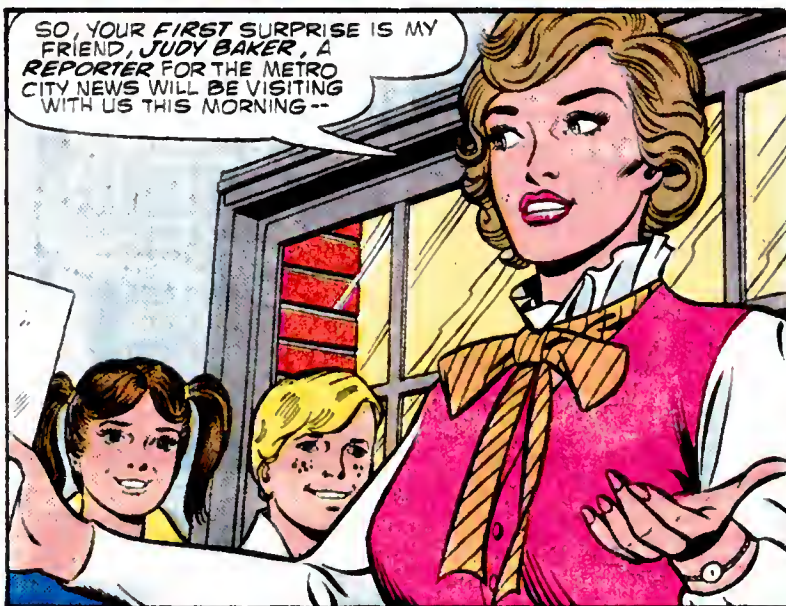
I THOUGHT THE ONLY THING YOU LIKED BETTER WAS TO TALK, ALEC!

UH-HUH! AND THAT'S NO SURPRISE!



BUT WHAT'S YOUR SURPRISE, MS. WILSON? PLEASE TELL US!

WELL, AS YOU ALL KNOW, OUR SIXTH GRADE CLASS HAS BEEN SELECTED TO PUBLISH THE NEW SCHOOL NEWSPAPER--



SO, YOUR FIRST SURPRISE IS MY FRIEND, JUDY BAKER, A REPORTER FOR THE METRO CITY NEWS WILL BE VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING--

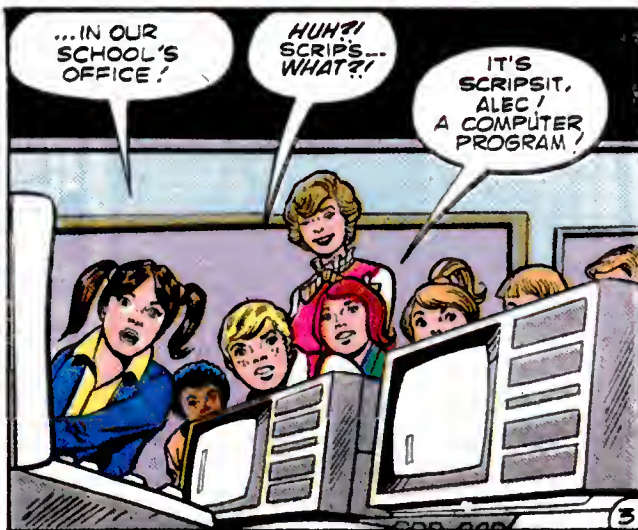


-- AND GIVING US SOME POINTERS ON PUTTING TOGETHER A PAPER!

WOW! A REAL REPORTER--!

MS. WILSON ALWAYS HAS THE BEST SURPRISES!

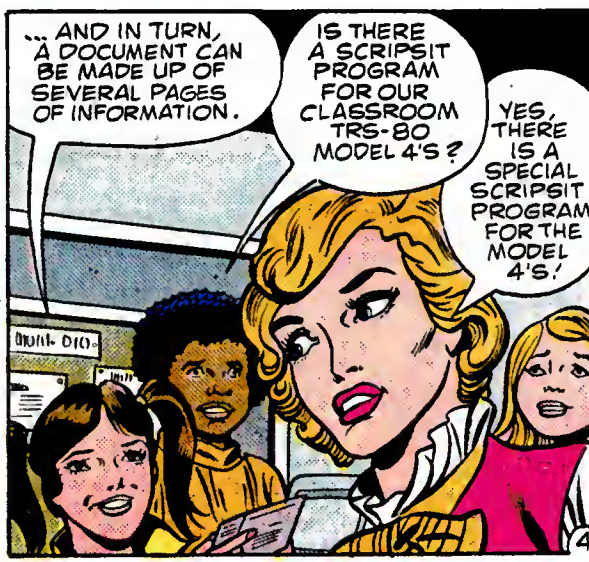
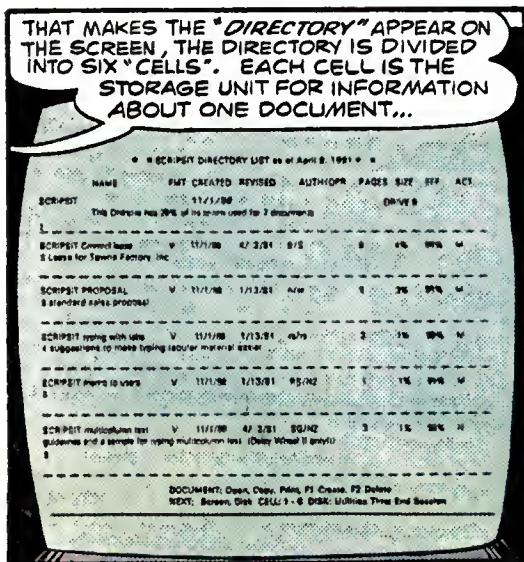
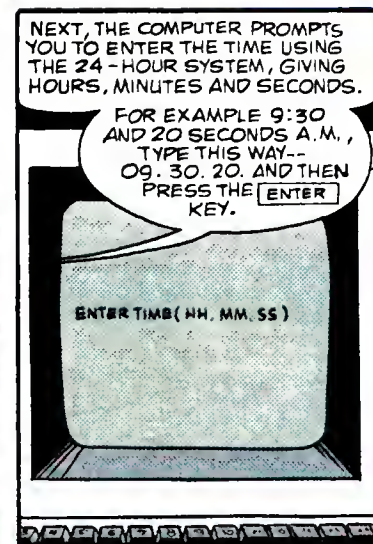
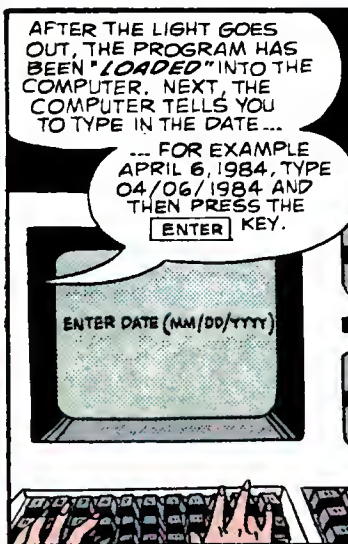
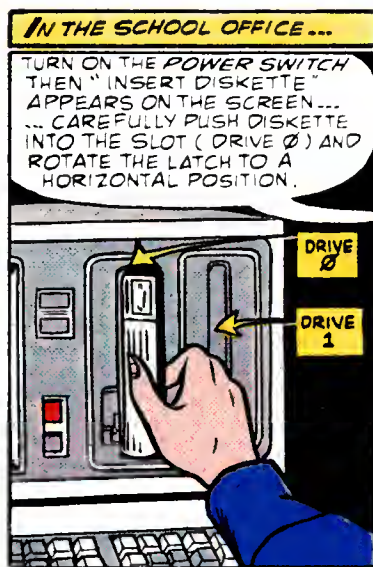
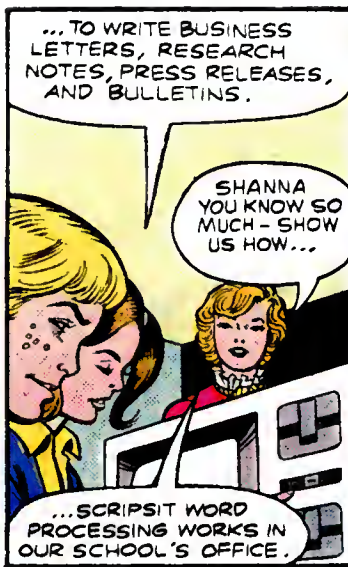
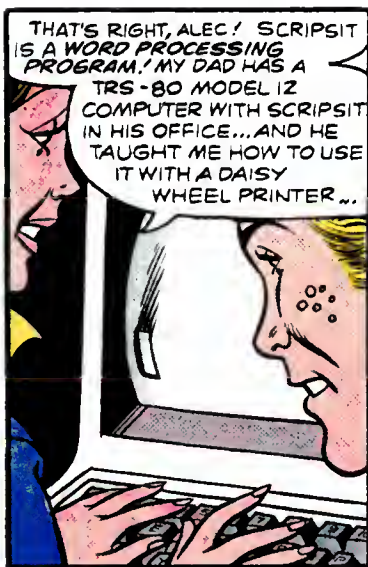
GREAT! WE'LL BE ABLE TO USE THE MODEL 12 WITH SCRIPSIT...



...IN OUR SCHOOL'S OFFICE!

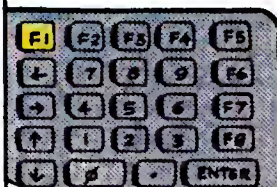
HUH?! SCRIPSIT-- WHAT?!

IT'S SCRIPSIT, ALEC! A COMPUTER PROGRAM!



SHANNA, TELL US HOW TO START TYPING A NEW DOCUMENT!

IT'S EASY!



JUST PRESS THE **F1** KEY, THEN THE **PASSWORD** PROMPT APPEARS ON THE SCREEN. A PASSWORD CAN'T HAVE MORE THAN 8 LETTERS.

IF YOU WANT A **PASSWORD**, TYPE IT AND PRESS THE **ENTER** KEY. IF YOU DON'T WANT A **PASSWORD**, JUST PRESS THE **ENTER** KEY AND THE **NEW DOCUMENT MENU** WILL APPEAR ON THE SCREEN.



• • SCRIPTSIT - CREATE NEW DOCUMENT • •

Diskette name
SCRIPTSIT

Document name?

Format line (1-11) or (Default)?
D

Author?

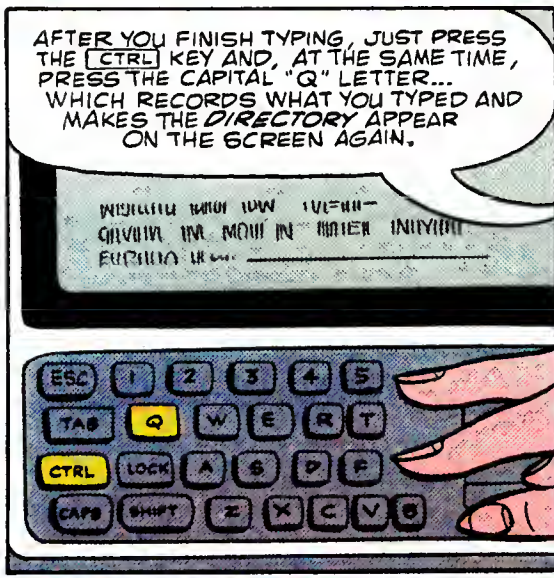
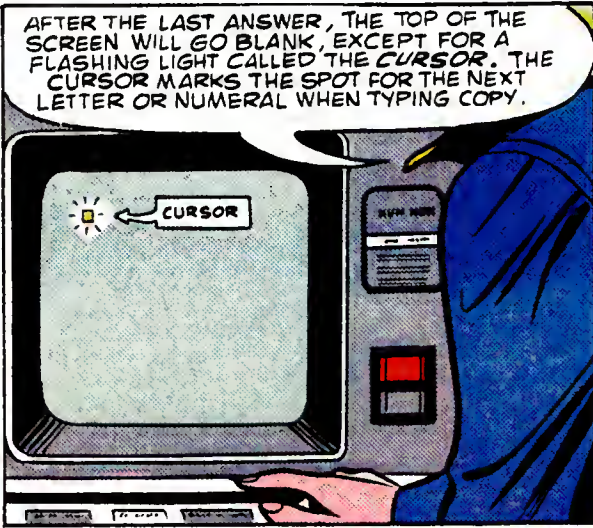
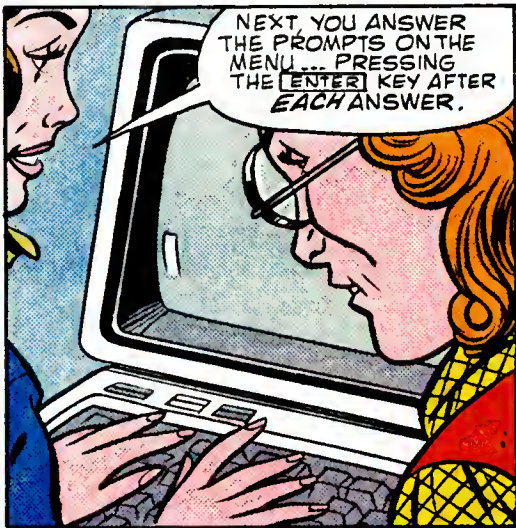
Operator?

Comments/Description?

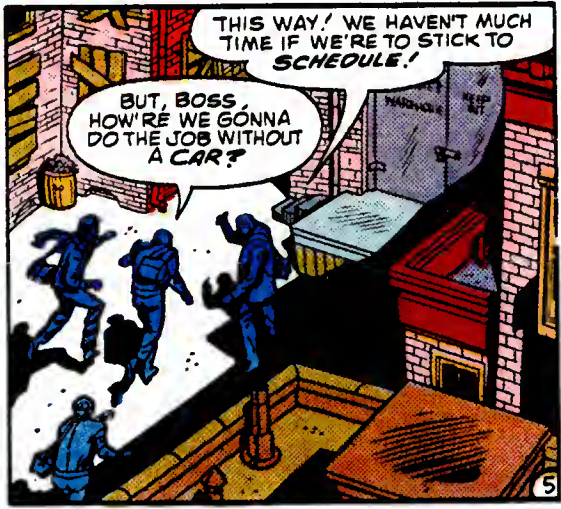
Number of lines to store on each page (1-84)?
50

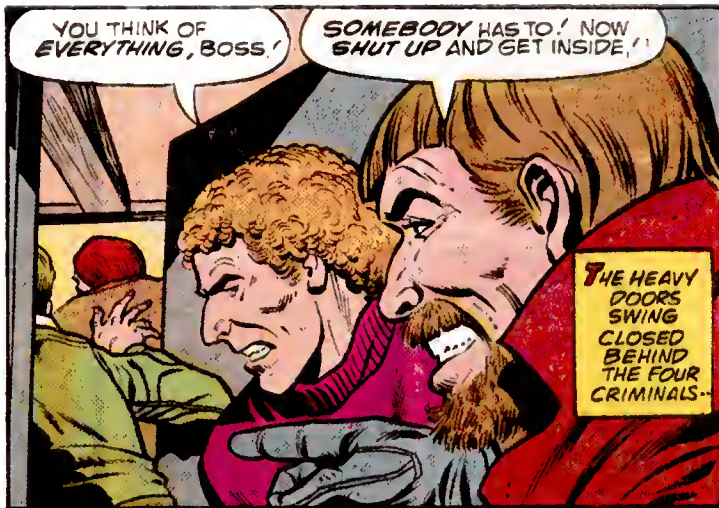
Activity level: (High, Medium, or Low) (H, M, L)?
V

Vertical or Horizontal Format (V or H)?
V

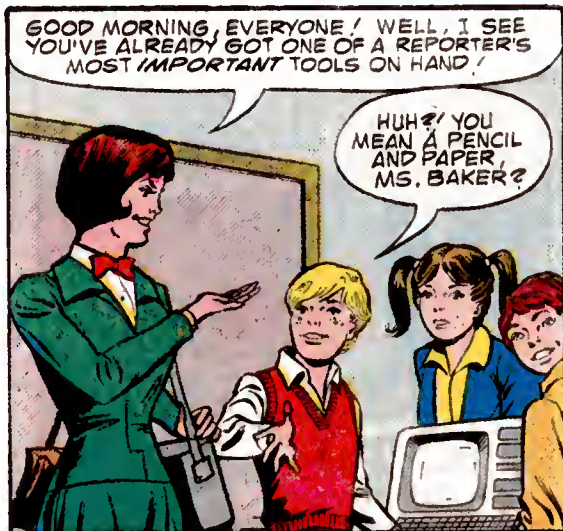
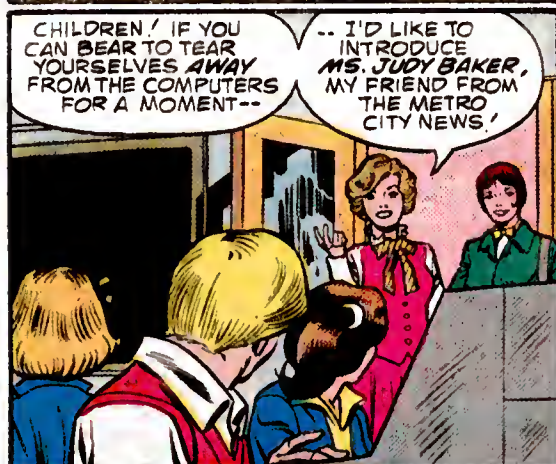


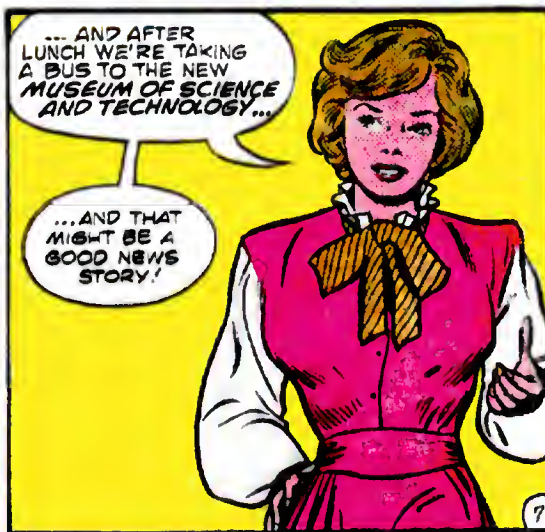
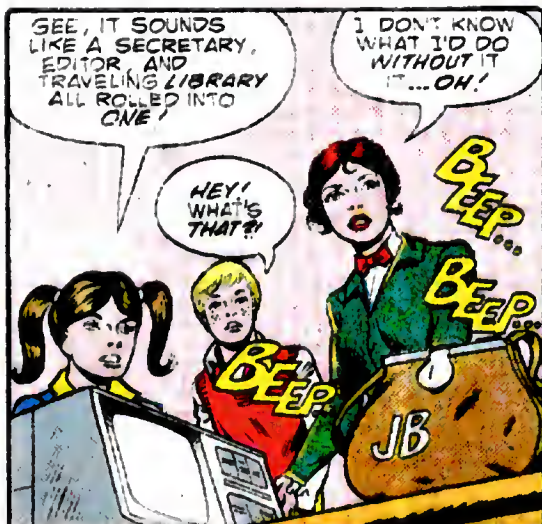
MEANWHILE, ACROSS TOWN, ON THE DESERTED SECTION OF WATERFRONT...





—WHILE, BACK AT METRO CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ANOTHER DOOR OPENS...





MEANWHILE... THE TERRORISTS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO THE NEW METRO CITY MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY!"



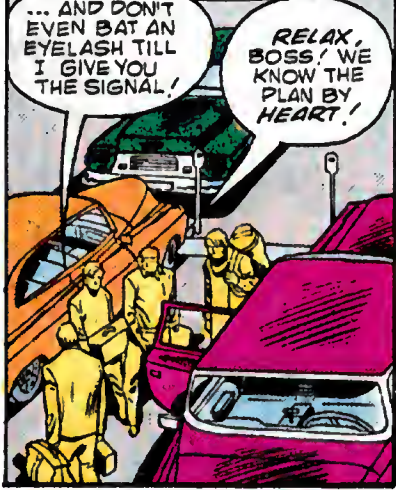
AIN'T WE KINDA EARLY, BOSS?!

OUT OF NECESSITY! WE NEED TO BE AMONG THE FIRST PEOPLE IN SO WE HAVE TIME TO CASE THE JOINT!



RIGHT, BOSS!

AND FOR THE LAST TIME YOU'D BETTER REMEMBER YOUR POSITIONS IN THE MAIN HALL...



... AND DON'T EVEN BAT AN EYELASH TILL I GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL!

RELAX, BOSS! WE KNOW THE PLAN BY HEART!

AND, IN THE OFFICES OF THE METRO CITY NEWS, JUDY BAKER IS BRIEFED BY HER EDITOR, GENE TAYLOR...



... AND THAT'S ALL WE KNOW, JUDY... AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL TIPPED US TO A KIDNAP PLOT AND A BOMB BEING PLANTED... SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY!

I WANT THE NEWS TO HAVE THE STORY FIRST, JUDY... AND IT'S ALL RIDING ON YOU!



CONSIDER IT DONE, CHIEF! THIS SOUNDS LIKE MY KIND OF STORY!

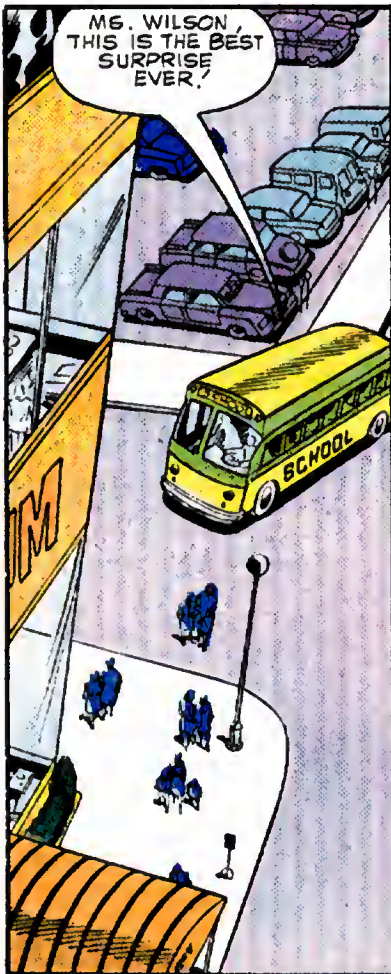
AND, AT THE METRO CITY POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS...



WE'RE ON STANDBY, MEN! IF THERE'S ANY TRUTH TO THAT KIDNAP / BOMB PLOT--

I WANT US TO BE READY TO MOVE OUT IN A MOMENT!

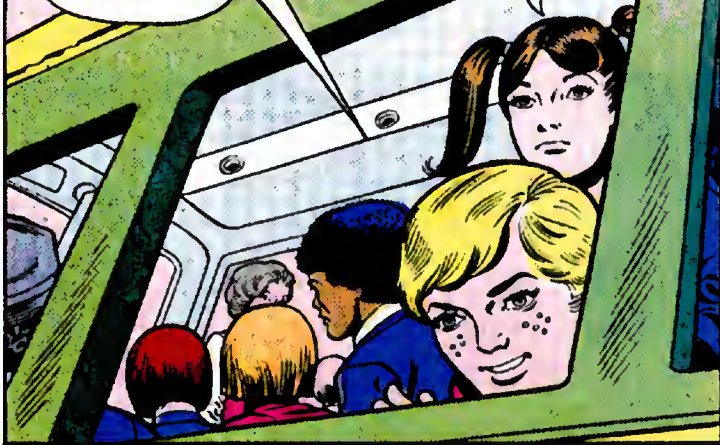
BUT WHILE THE TENSION GROWS AROUND THEM AT THE THREAT OF COMING VIOLENCE, MS. WILSON'S SIXTH GRADERS ARE UNAWARE OF THE DANGER, AS ...



MS. WILSON, THIS IS THE BEST SURPRISE EVER!

I HEAR THEY'VE GOT JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING ON DISPLAY IN THE NEW MUSEUM!

WELL, IF YOU DON'T MOVE IT, SLOWPOKE, YOU'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO GO ON DREAMING ABOUT THAT VISIT--



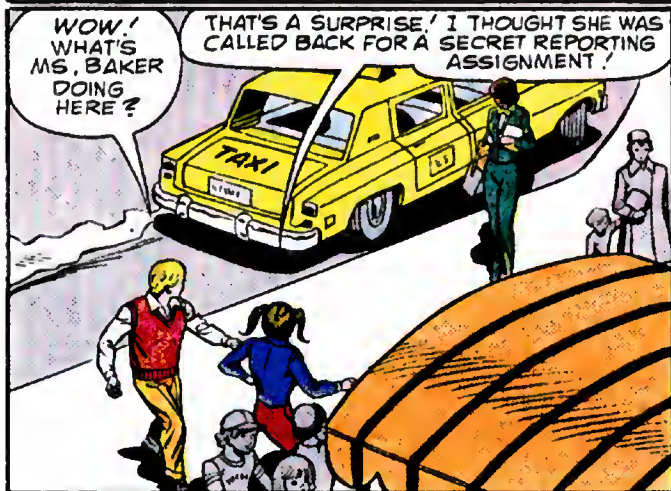
-- BECAUSE YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE LEFT BEHIND! TEE-HEE!

HEY! WAIT UP FOR ME, GANG!



THE CLASS IS TALKATIVE AND EXCITED AS THEY LEAVE THEIR SCHOOL BUS AND WALK TOWARDS THE IMPOSING ENTRANCE--

-- TO THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY!



WOW! WHAT'S MS. BAKER DOING HERE?

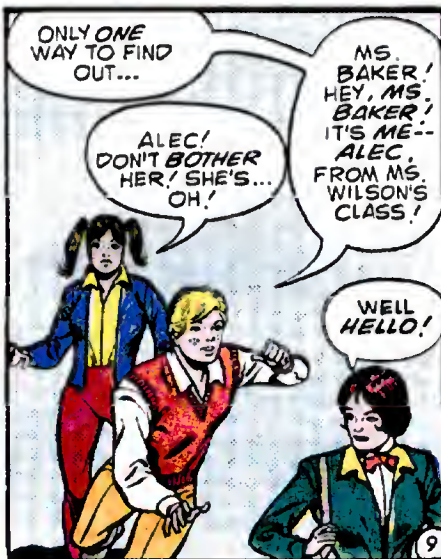
THAT'S A SURPRISE! I THOUGHT SHE WAS CALLED BACK FOR A SECRET REPORTING ASSIGNMENT!

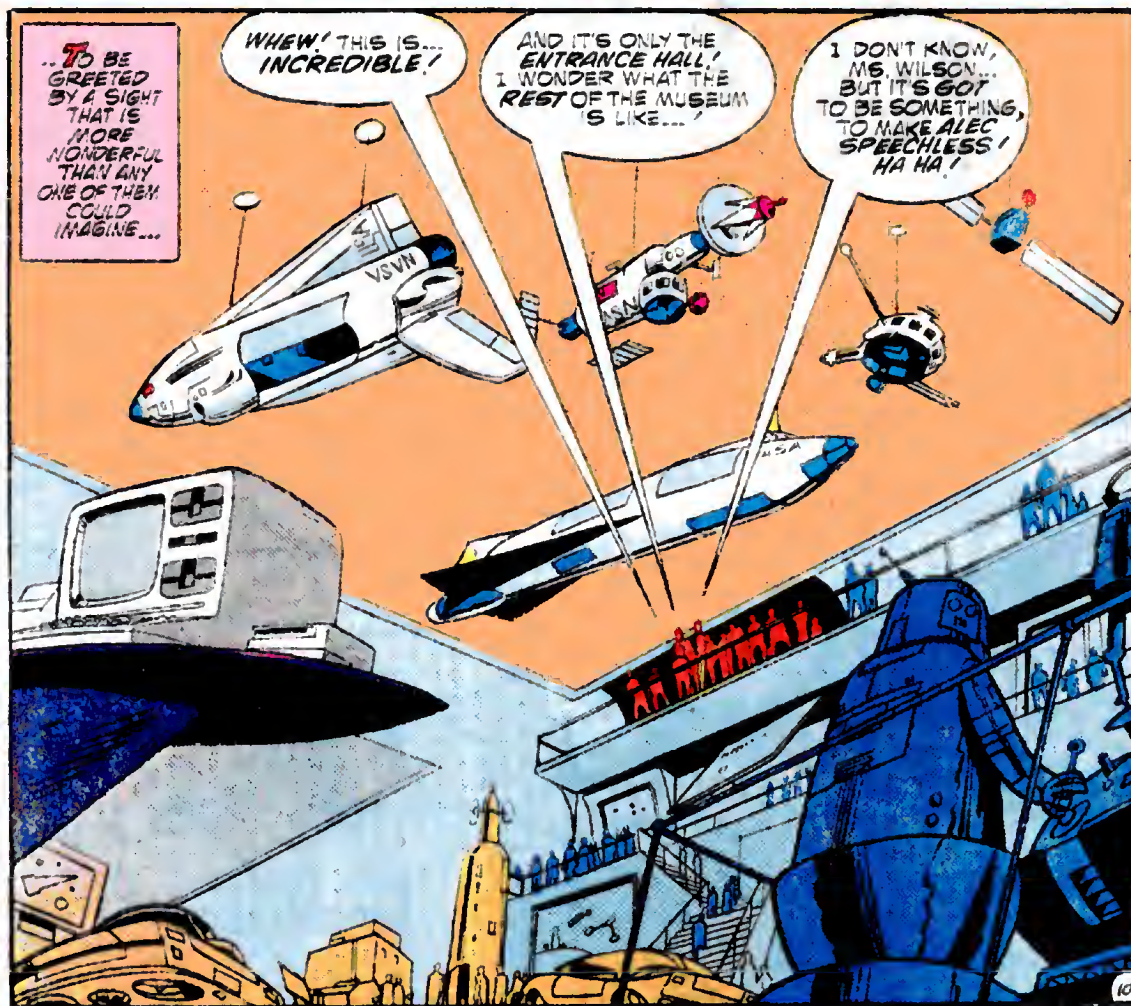
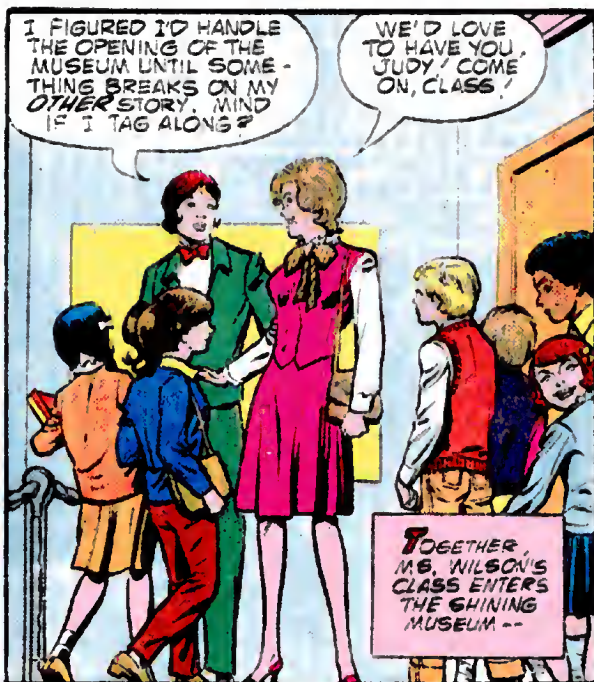
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT...

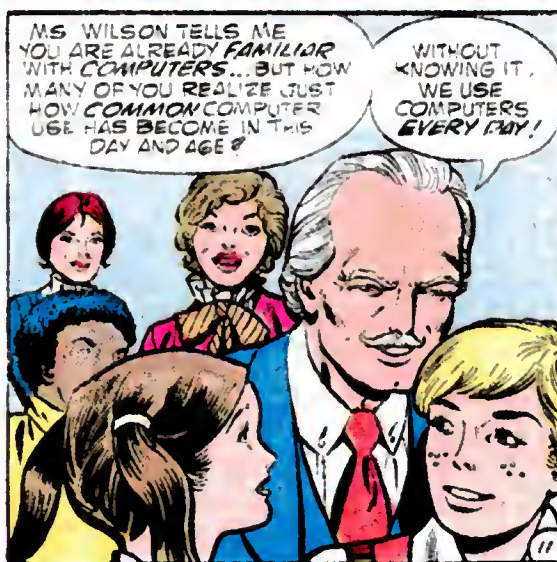
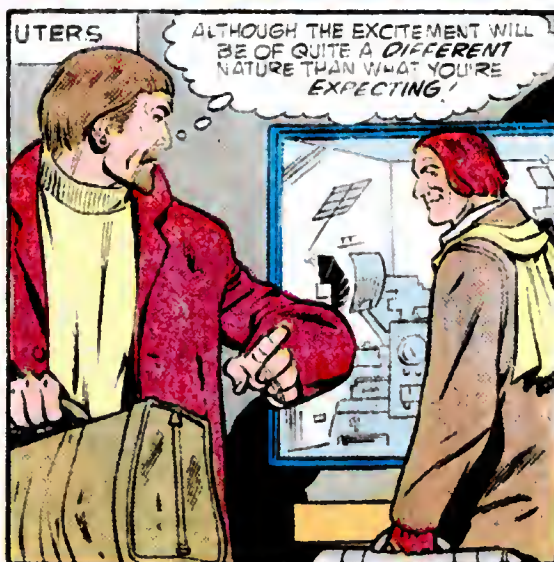
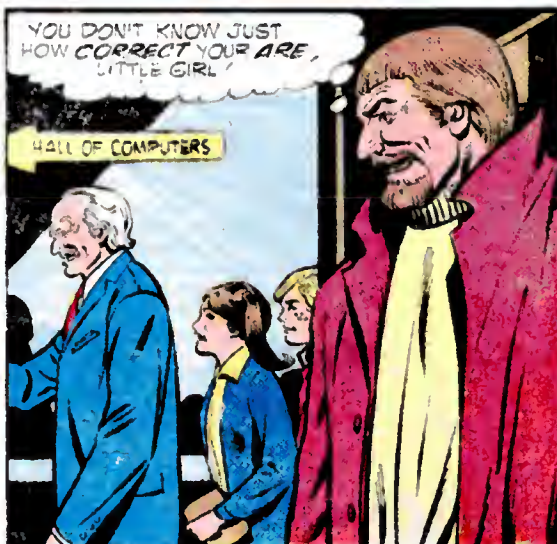
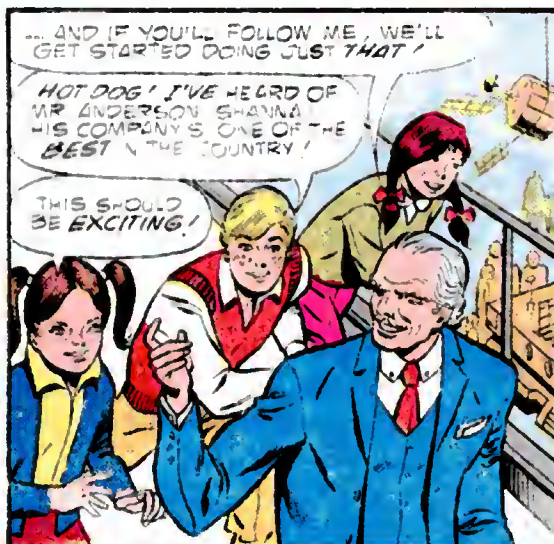
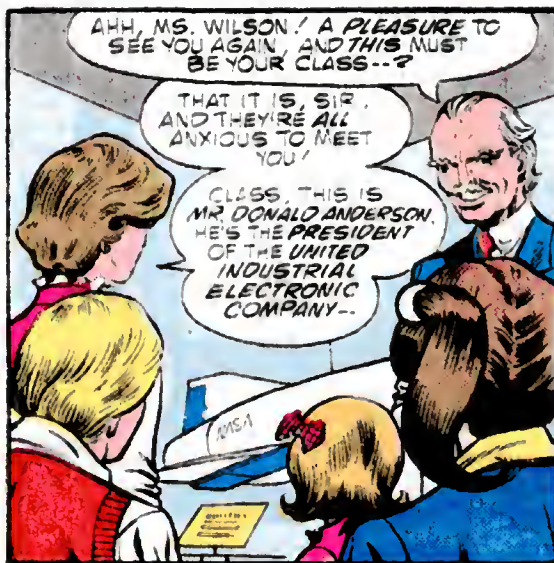
ALEC! DON'T BOTHER HER! SHE'S... OH!

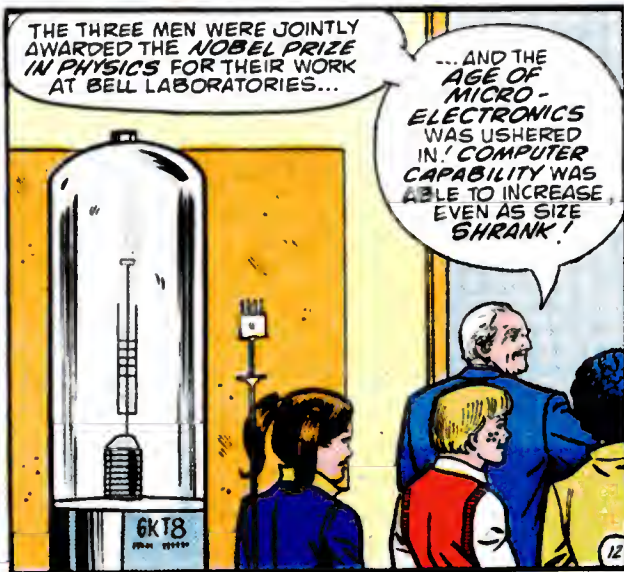
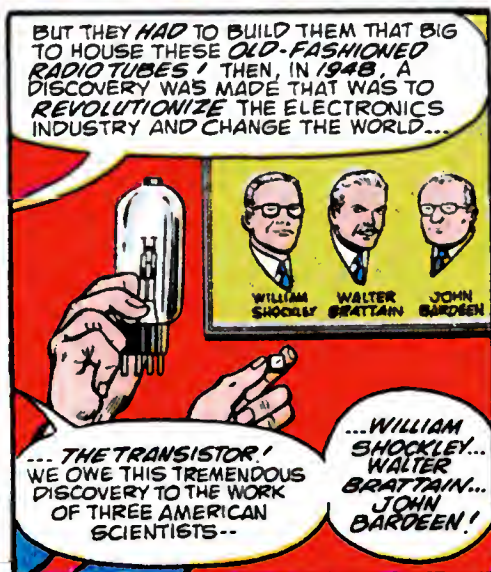
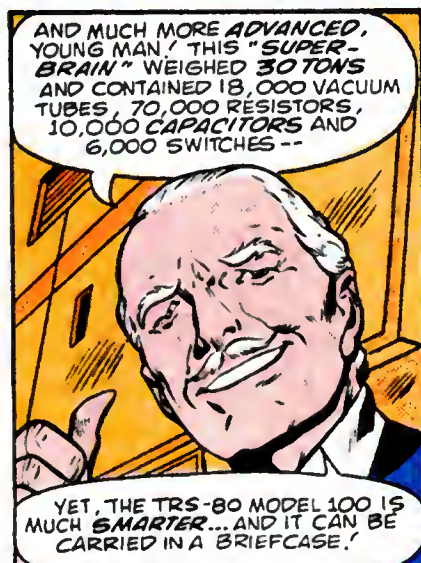
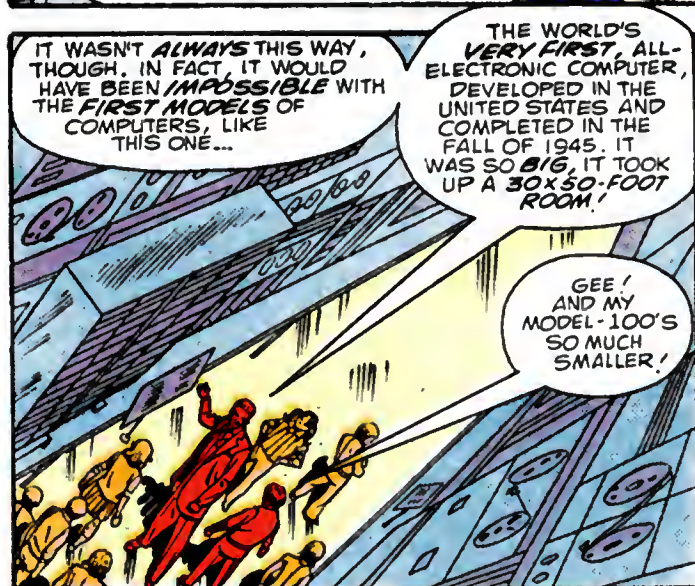
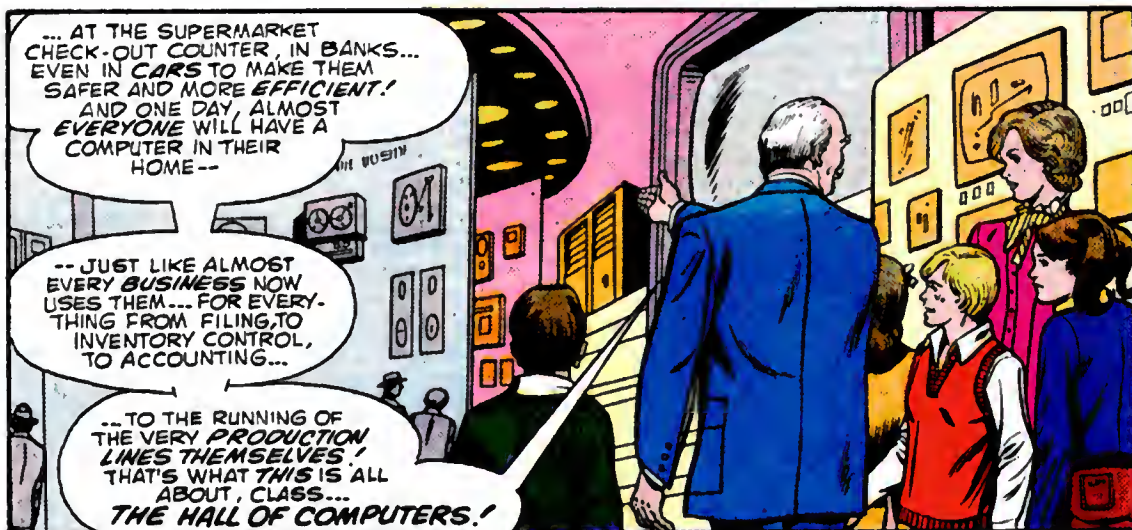
MS. BAKER! HEY, MS. BAKER! IT'S ME-- ALEC, FROM MS. WILSON'S CLASS!

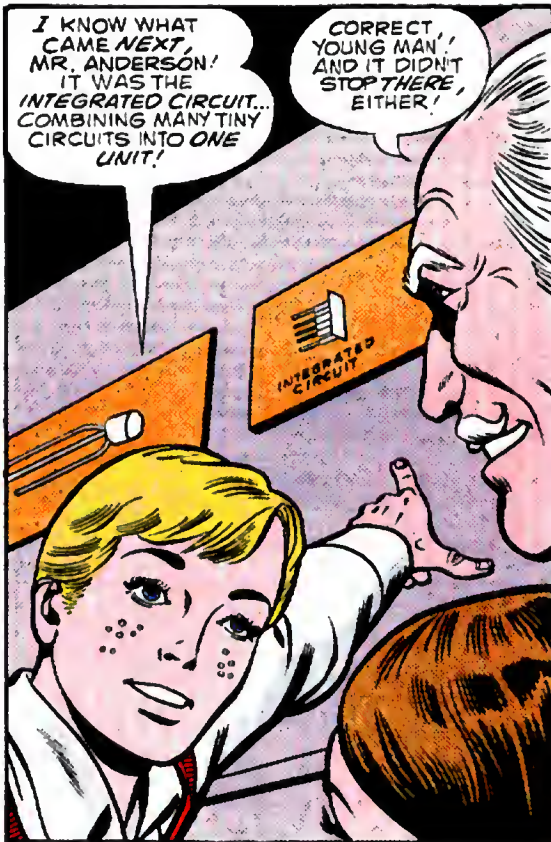
WELL HELLO!





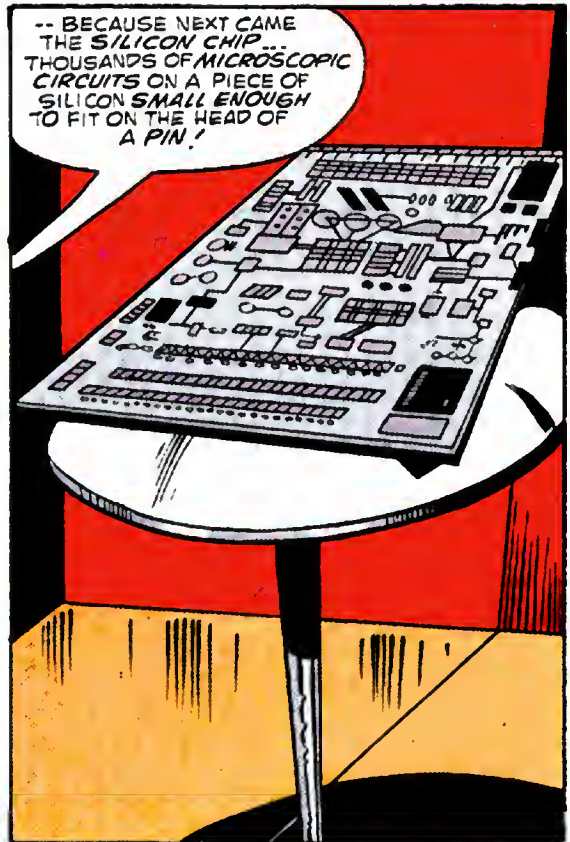




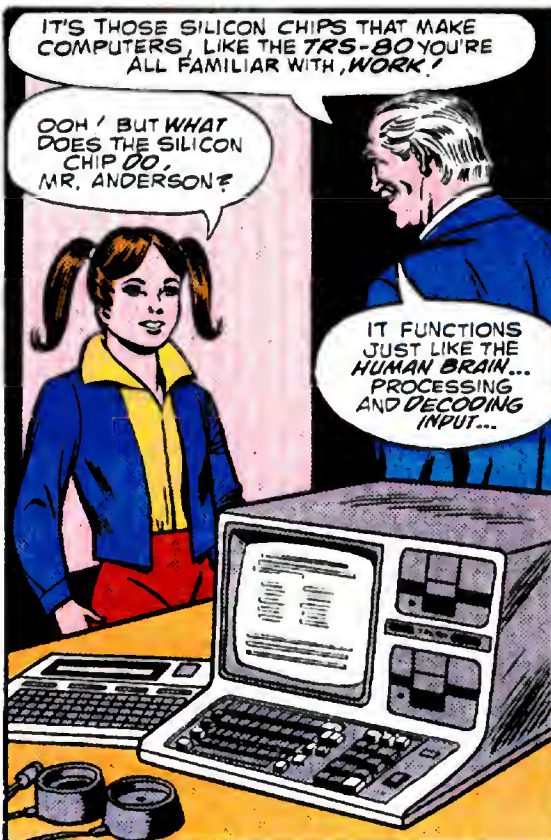


I KNOW WHAT CAME NEXT, MR. ANDERSON! IT WAS THE INTEGRATED CIRCUIT... COMBINING MANY TINY CIRCUITS INTO ONE UNIT!

CORRECT, YOUNG MAN, AND IT DIDN'T STOP THERE, EITHER!



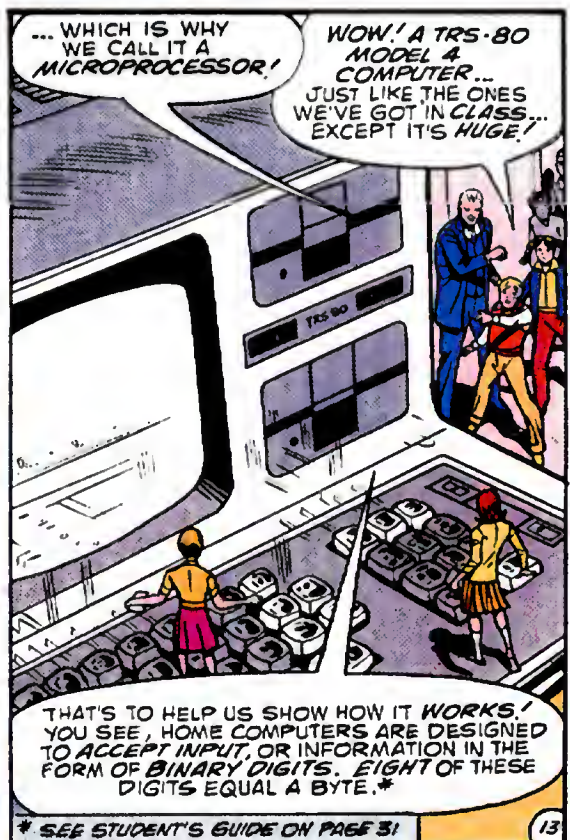
-- BECAUSE NEXT CAME THE SILICON CHIP... THOUSANDS OF MICROSCOPIC CIRCUITS ON A PIECE OF SILICON SMALL ENOUGH TO FIT ON THE HEAD OF A PIN!



IT'S THOSE SILICON CHIPS THAT MAKE COMPUTERS, LIKE THE TRS-80 YOU'RE ALL FAMILIAR WITH, WORK!

OOH! BUT WHAT DOES THE SILICON CHIP DO, MR. ANDERSON?

IT FUNCTIONS JUST LIKE THE HUMAN BRAIN... PROCESSING AND DECODING INPUT...



... WHICH IS WHY WE CALL IT A MICROPROCESSOR!

WOW! A TRS-80 MODEL 4 COMPUTER... JUST LIKE THE ONES WE'VE GOT IN CLASS... EXCEPT IT'S HUGE!

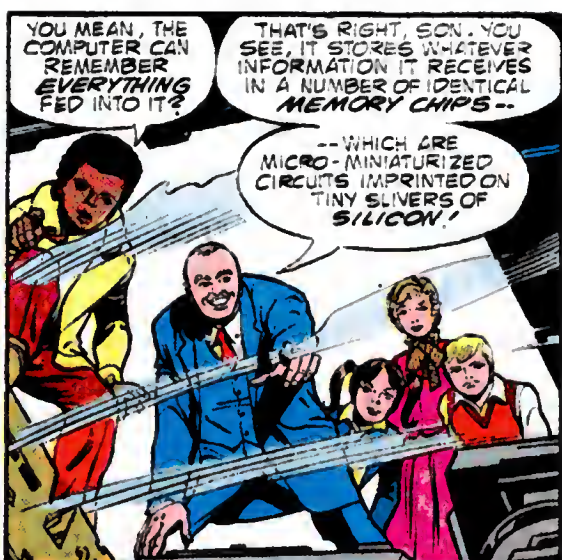
THAT'S TO HELP US SHOW HOW IT WORKS! YOU SEE, HOME COMPUTERS ARE DESIGNED TO ACCEPT INPUT, OR INFORMATION IN THE FORM OF BINARY DIGITS. EIGHT OF THESE DIGITS EQUAL A BYTE.*

* SEE STUDENT'S GUIDE ON PAGE 3!



NOW, THESE DIGITS, IN COMBINATIONS OF ZÉROES AND ONES, MAKE UP A **BYTE**, AND EACH BYTE CARRIES CODED INFORMATION--

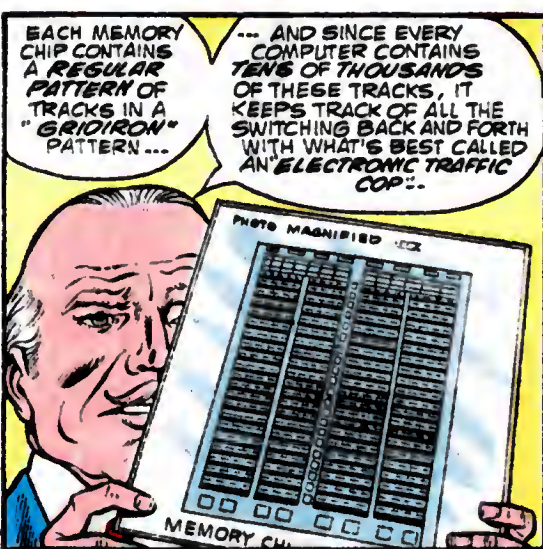
--REPRESENTING A PIECE OF DATA OR WORD OF INSTRUCTION TO THE MICROPROCESSOR!



YOU MEAN, THE COMPUTER CAN REMEMBER **EVERYTHING** FED INTO IT?

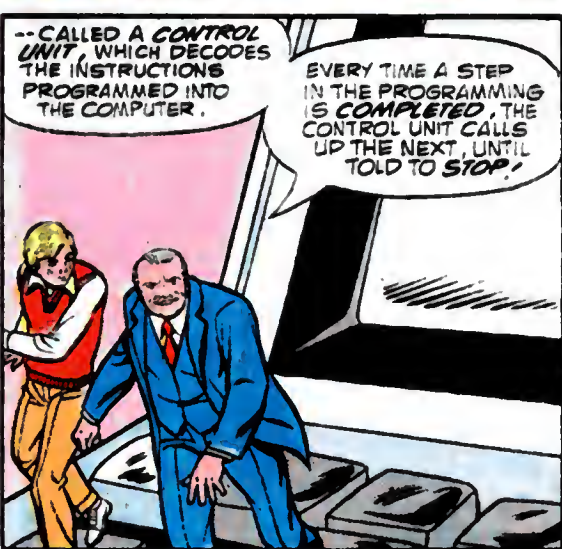
THAT'S RIGHT, SON. YOU SEE, IT STORES WHATEVER INFORMATION IT RECEIVES IN A NUMBER OF IDENTICAL **MEMORY CHIPS**--

--WHICH ARE MICRO-MINIATURIZED CIRCUITS IMPRINTED ON TINY SLIVERS OF **SILICON**!



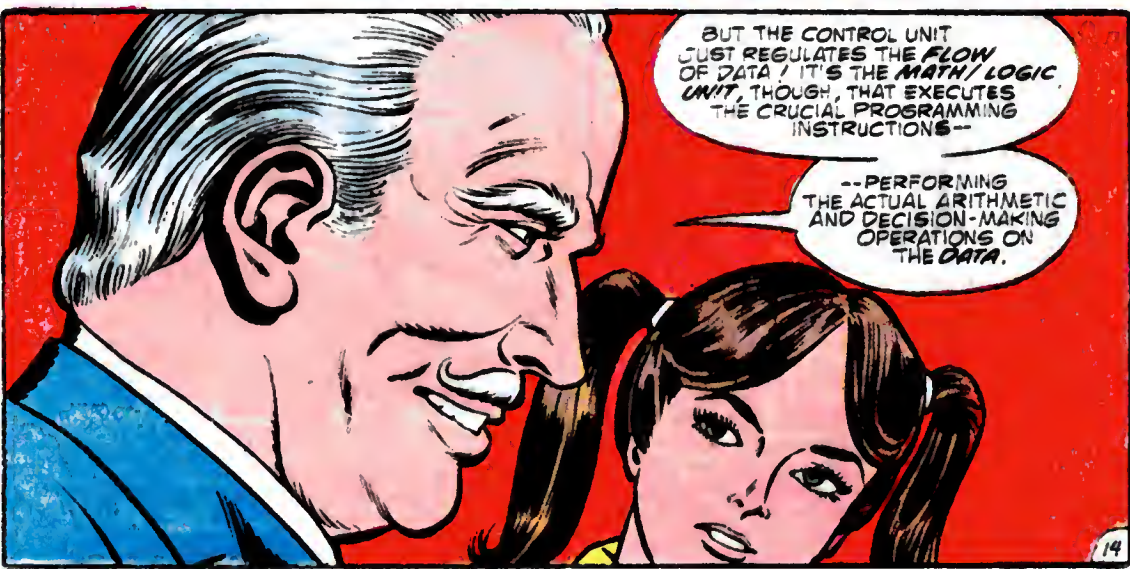
EACH MEMORY CHIP CONTAINS A **REGULAR PATTERN** OF TRACKS IN A "**GRIDIRON**" PATTERN....

--- AND SINCE EVERY COMPUTER CONTAINS **TENS OF THOUSANDS** OF THESE TRACKS, IT KEEPS TRACK OF ALL THE SWITCHING BACK AND FORTH WITH WHAT'S BEST CALLED AN **ELECTRONIC TRAFFIC COP**--



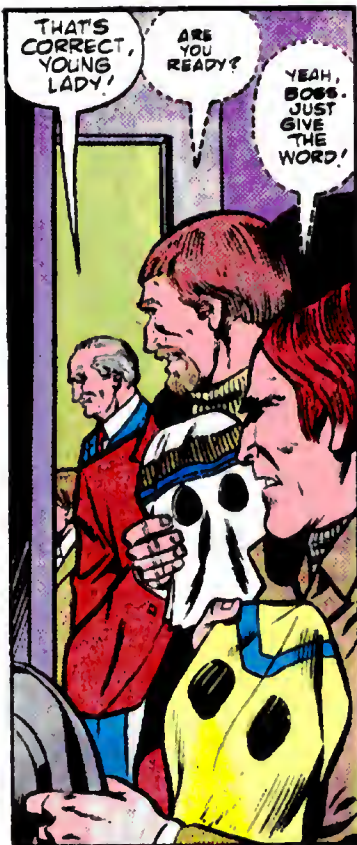
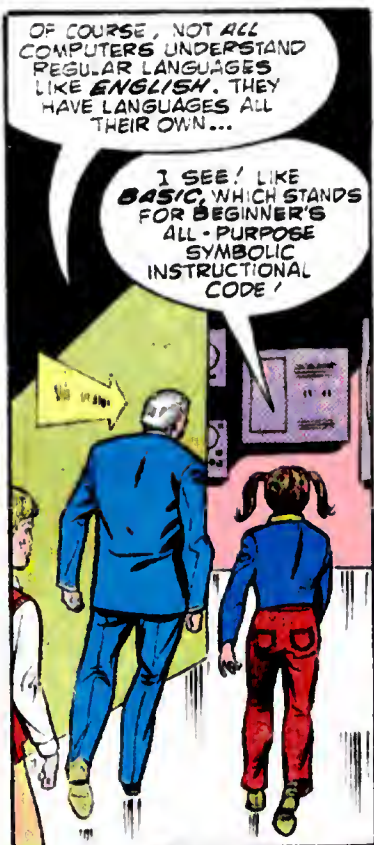
--CALLED A **CONTROL UNIT**, WHICH DECODES THE INSTRUCTIONS PROGRAMMED INTO THE COMPUTER.

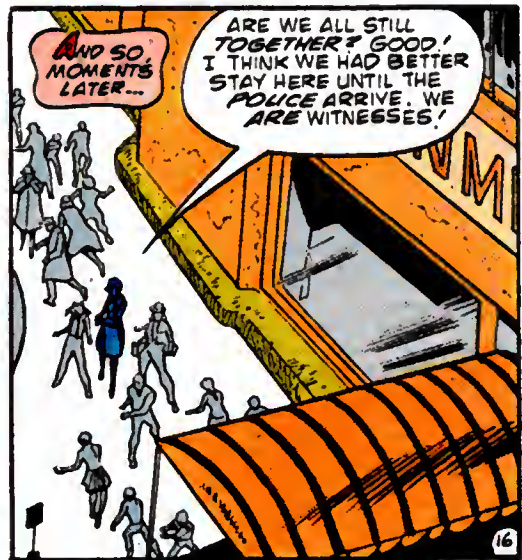
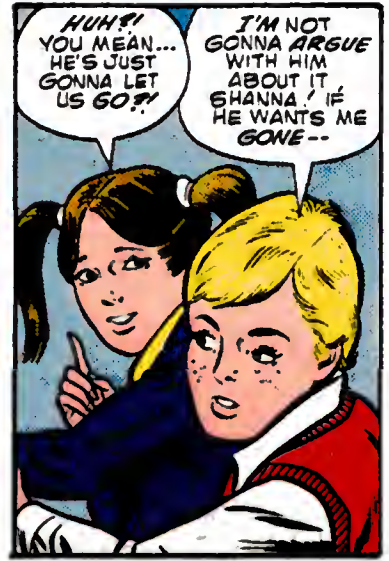
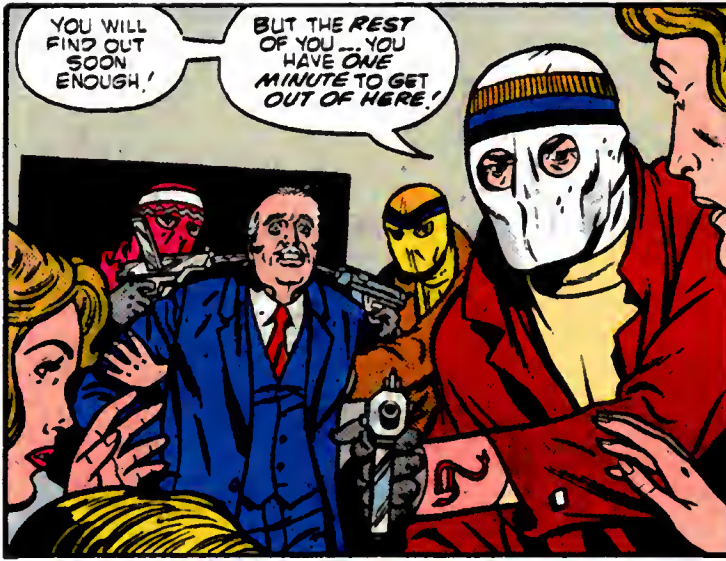
EVERY TIME A STEP IN THE PROGRAMMING IS **COMPLETED**, THE CONTROL UNIT CALLS UP THE NEXT, UNTIL TOLD TO **STOP**!

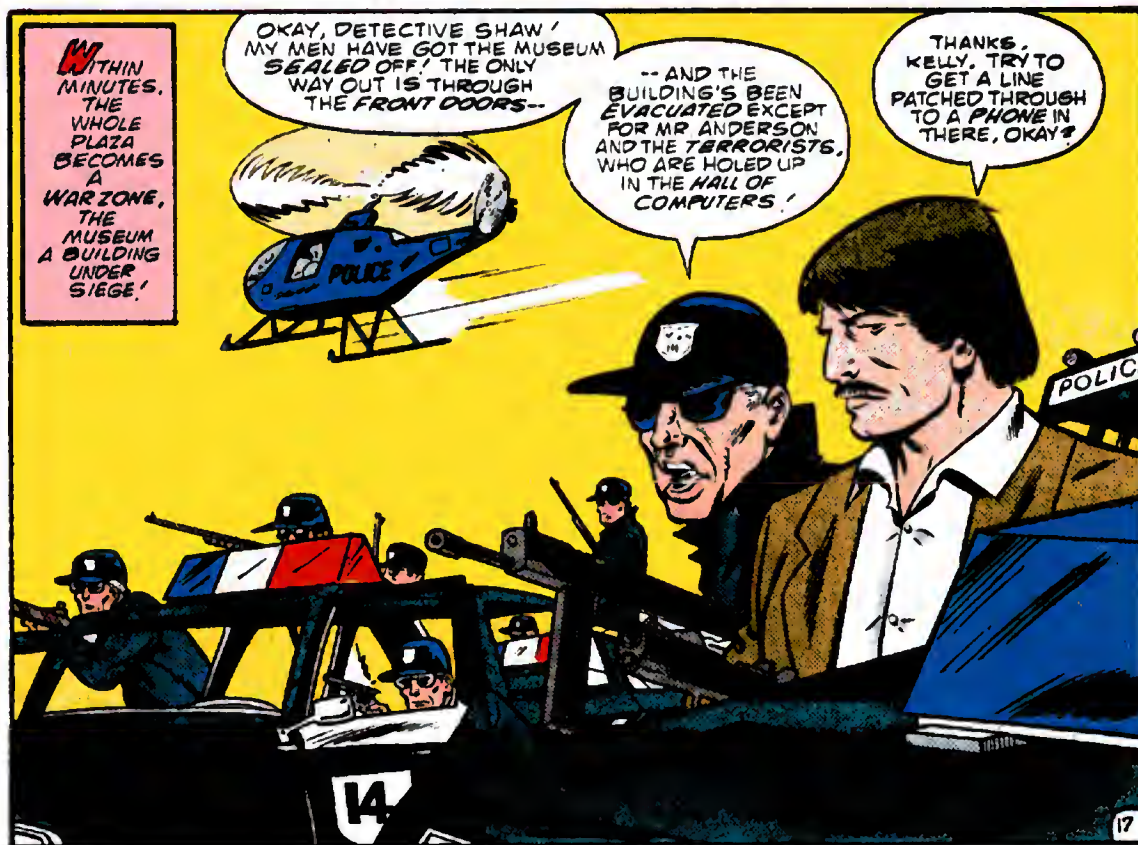


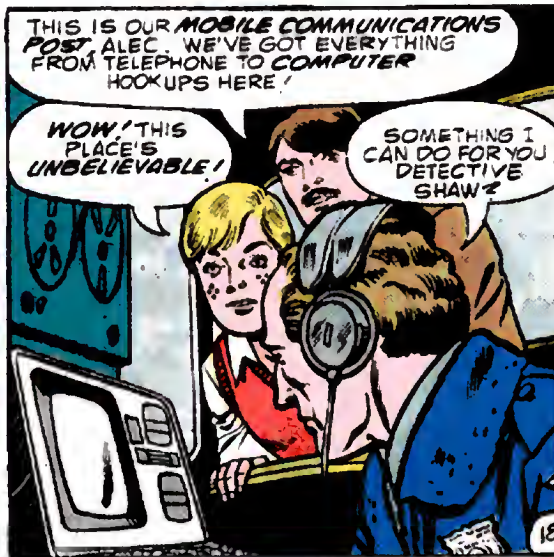
BUT THE CONTROL UNIT JUST REGULATES THE **FLOW OF DATA**! IT'S THE **MATH/LOGIC UNIT**, THOUGH, THAT EXECUTES THE CRUCIAL PROGRAMMING INSTRUCTIONS--

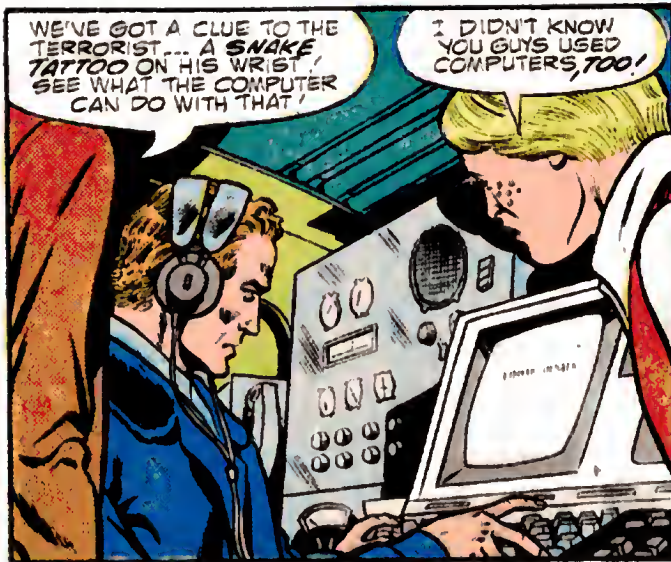
--PERFORMING THE ACTUAL **ARITHMETIC AND DECISION-MAKING** OPERATIONS ON THE DATA.

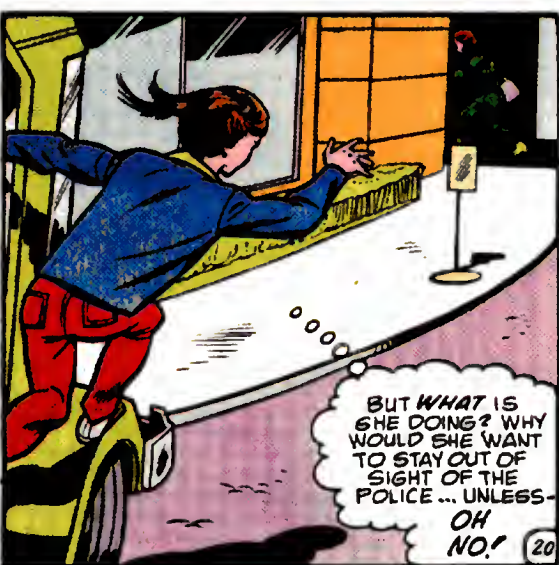
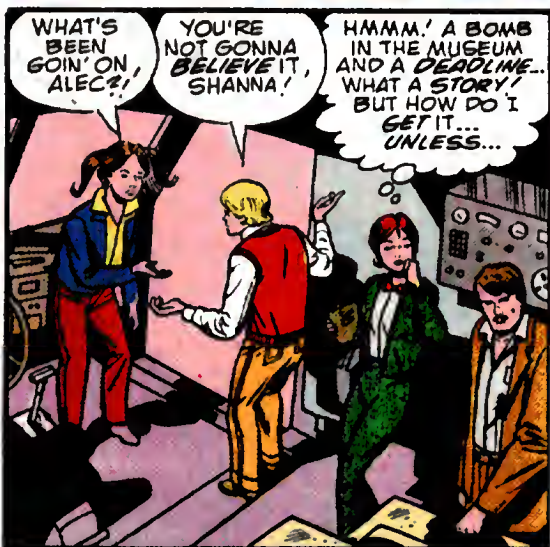
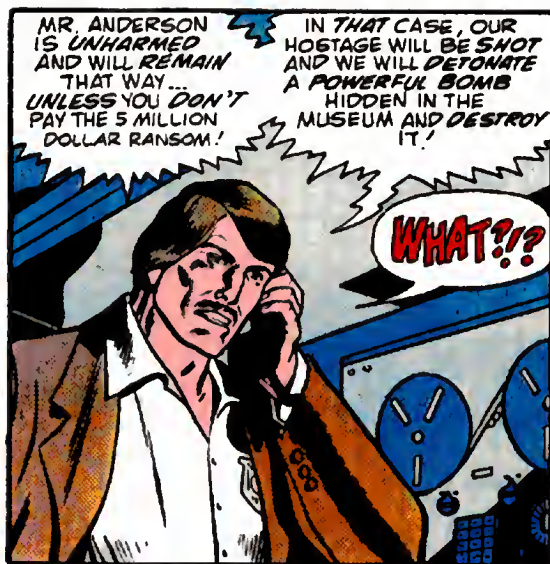


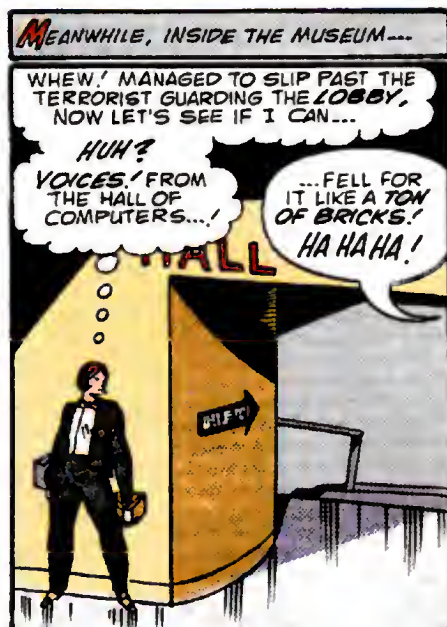
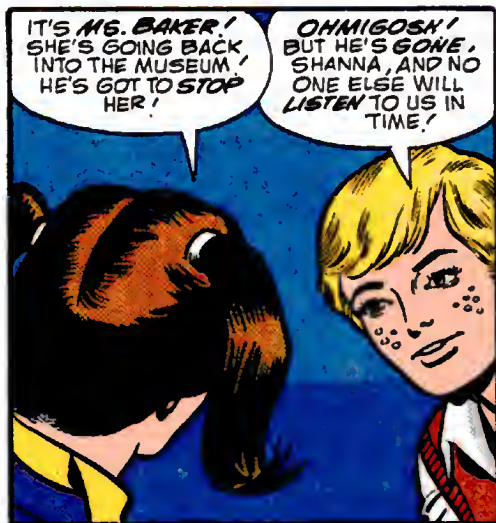
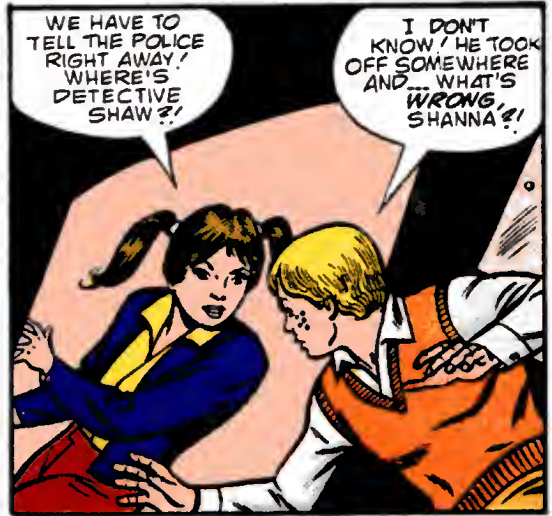














BUT NOT FOR MUCH LONGER, MR FUZZI! ONCE THEY HEAR WHAT I'VE HEARD, THEY'LL BE ALL OVER YOU LIKE A BAD CASE OF POISON IVY!

THE POLICE WILL HAVE YOU--



-- AND I'LL HAVE THE HOTTEST STORY IN TOWN!

IT OUGHT TO BE A CINCH TO SNEAK BACK OUT AND FIND DETECTIVE SHAW--



-- AND THEN GET TO A TELEPHONE AND...

EEK!

POSSIBLY--



MS. BAKER! ARE YOU OKAY?!

ALECI SHANNA! HEAVENS, CHILDREN, YOU SCARED ME HALF TO DEATH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!



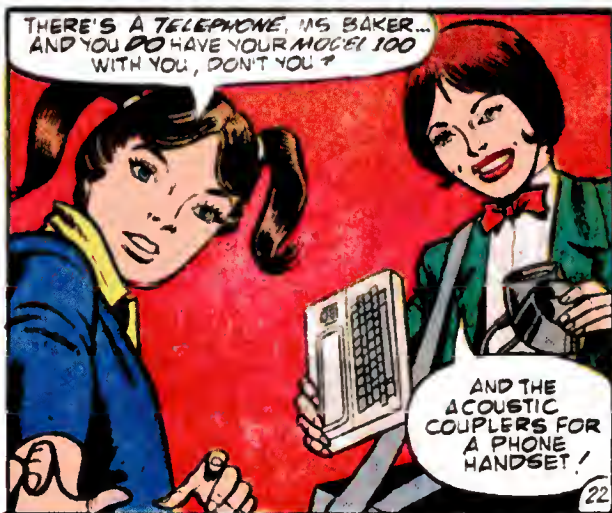
WE CAME TO STOP YOU, MS. BAKER! WE WERE AFRAID THE TERRORISTS WOULD FIND YOU!

WELL, WE CAN'T DISCUSS IT OUT HERE, I'VE BETTER HIDE!



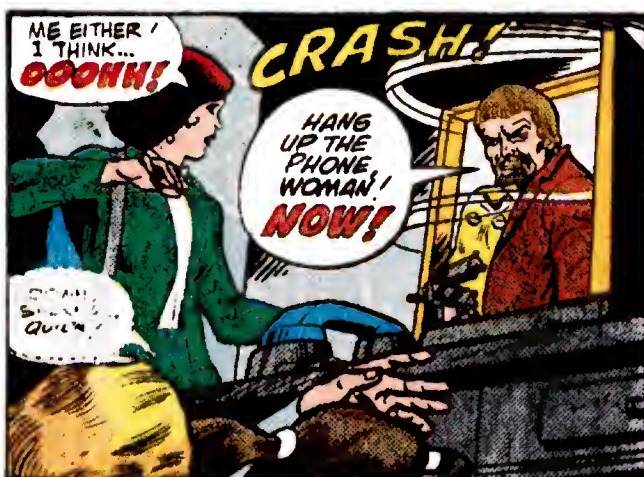
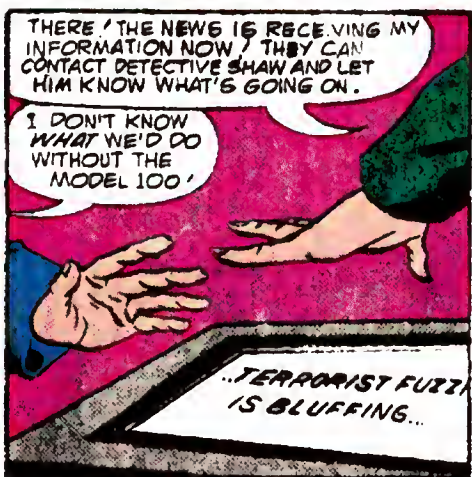
WHEN! WE'LL BE SAFE IN HERE! WE CAN'T RISK ALL THREE OF US SNEAKING PAST THE GUARD IN THE LOBBY--

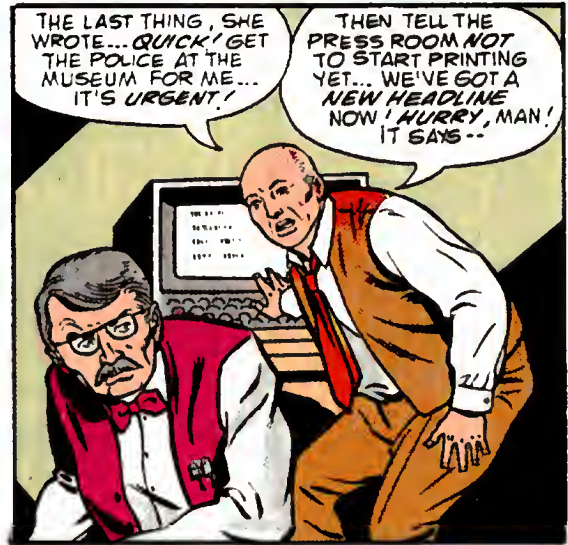
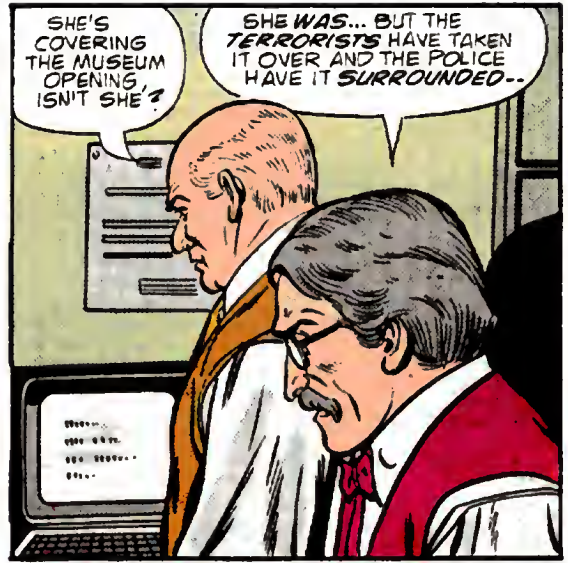
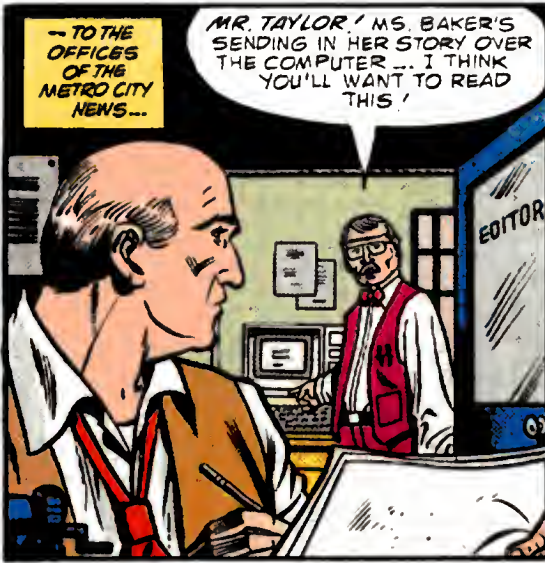
-- BUT I'VE GOT TO GET MY STORY TO THE POLICE... AND MY NEWSPAPER... AND FAST!

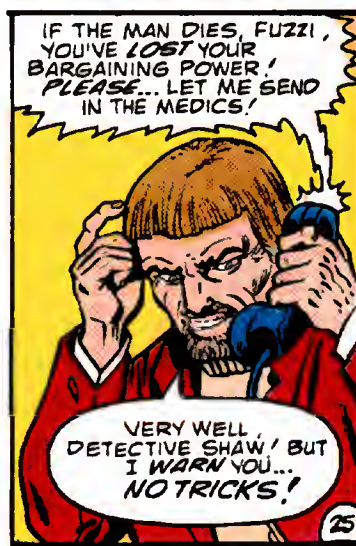
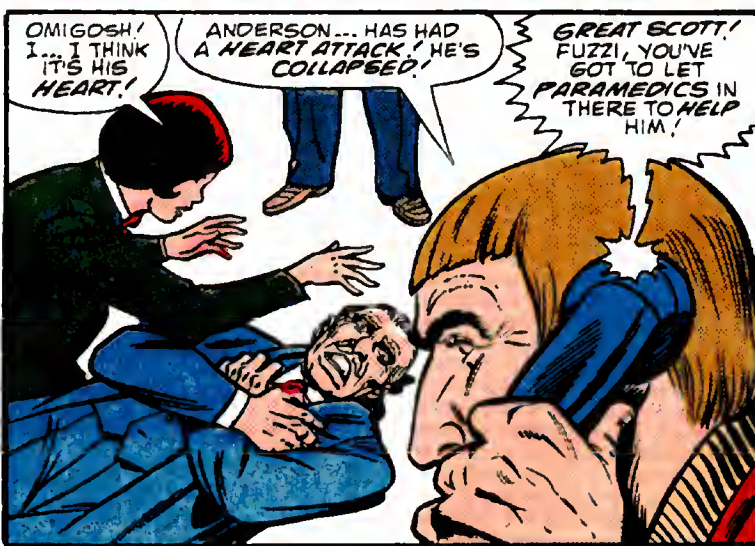
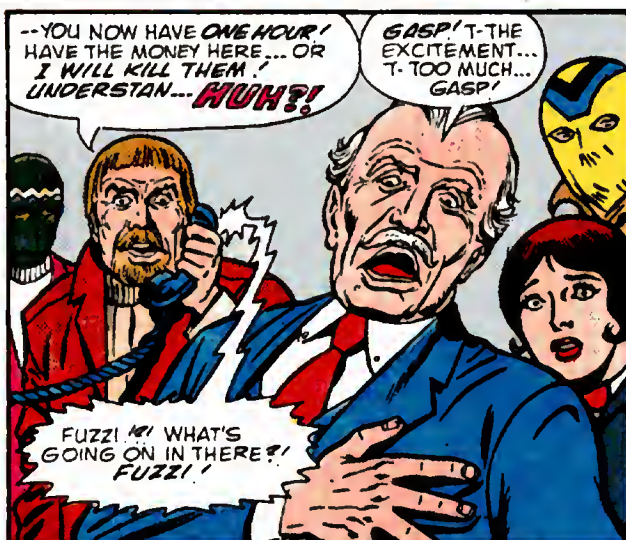
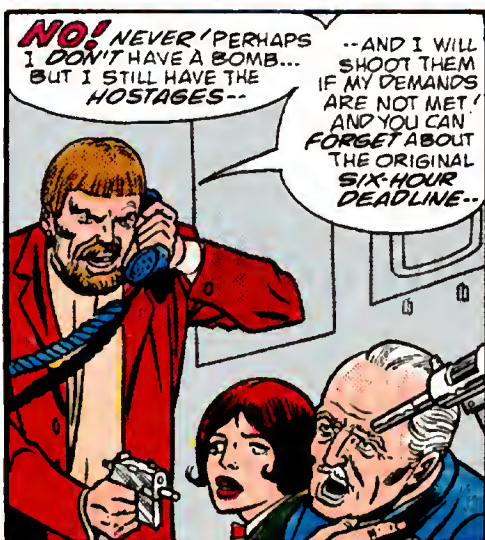


THERE'S A TELEPHONE, MS BAKER... AND YOU DO HAVE YOUR MODEL 100 WITH YOU, DON'T YOU?

AND THE ACOUSTIC COUPLERS FOR A PHONE HANDSET!





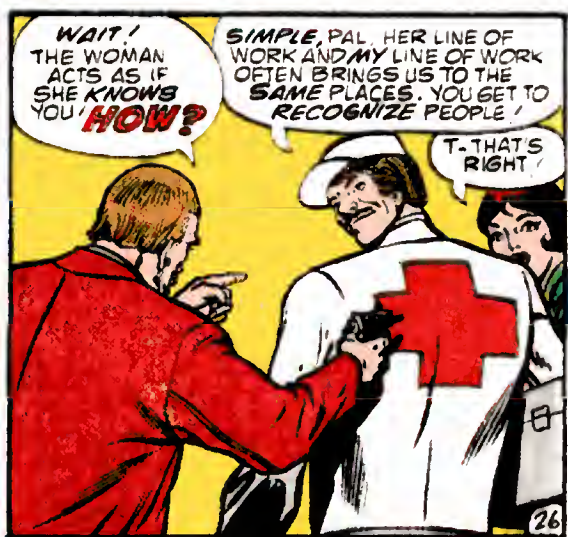


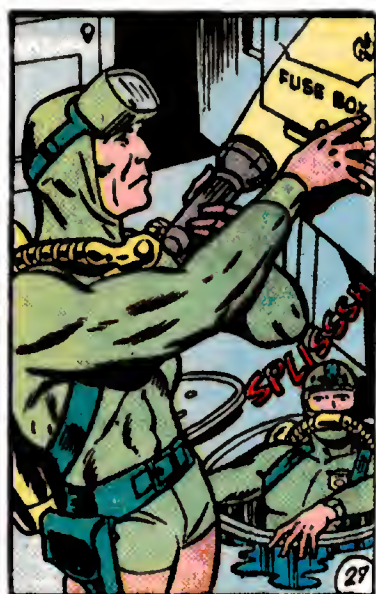
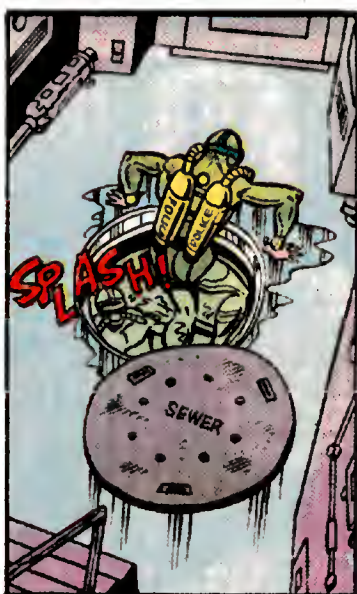
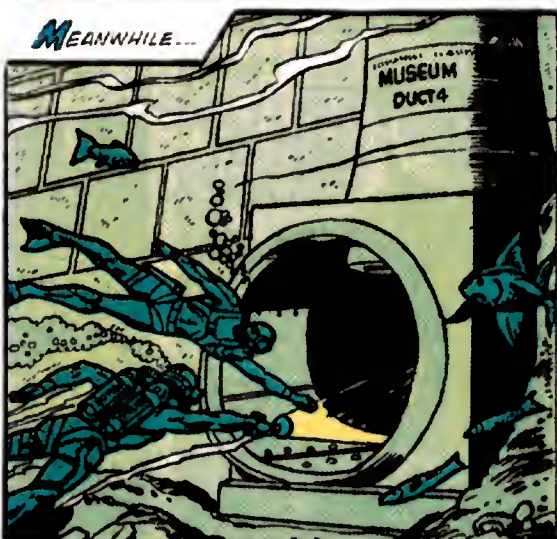
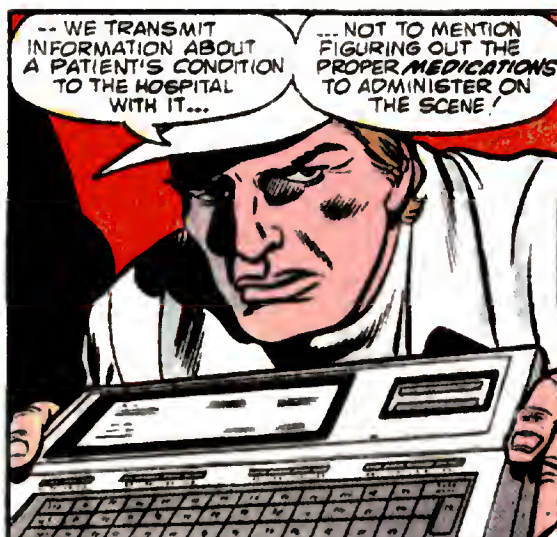


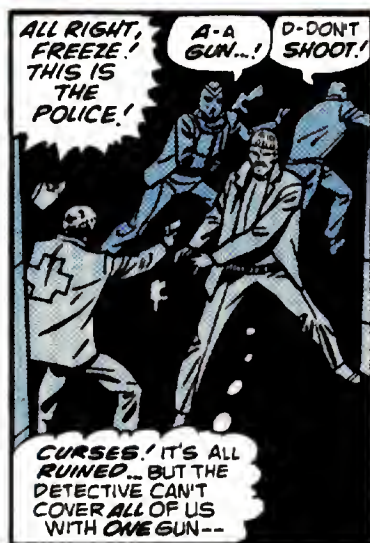
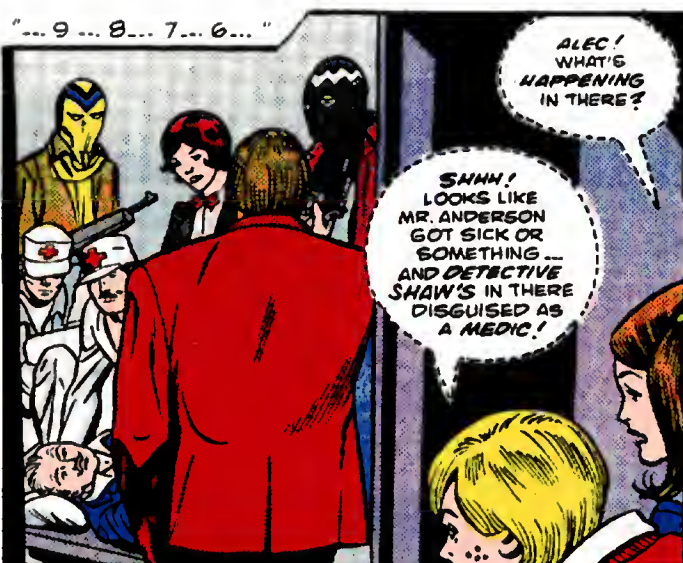
AND, AFTER A HURRIED SEARCH TO INSURE THEY CARRY NOTHING BUT MEDICAL EQUIPMENT--

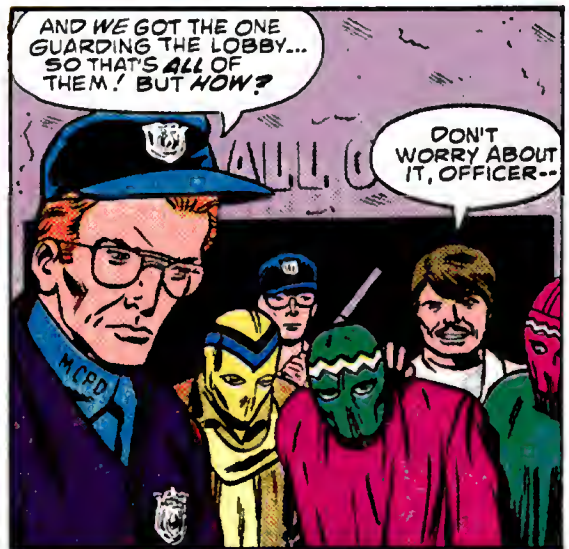
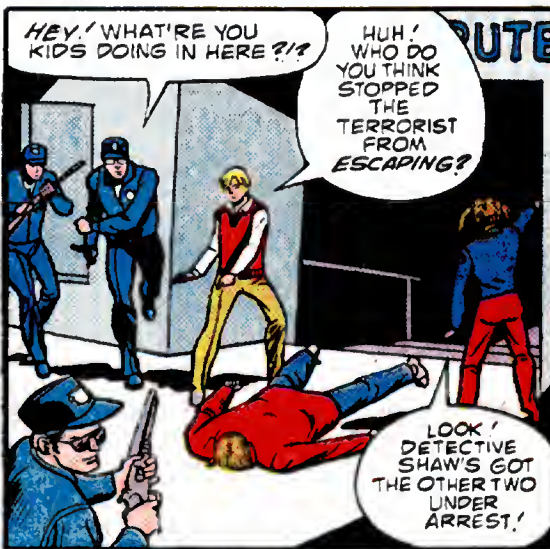


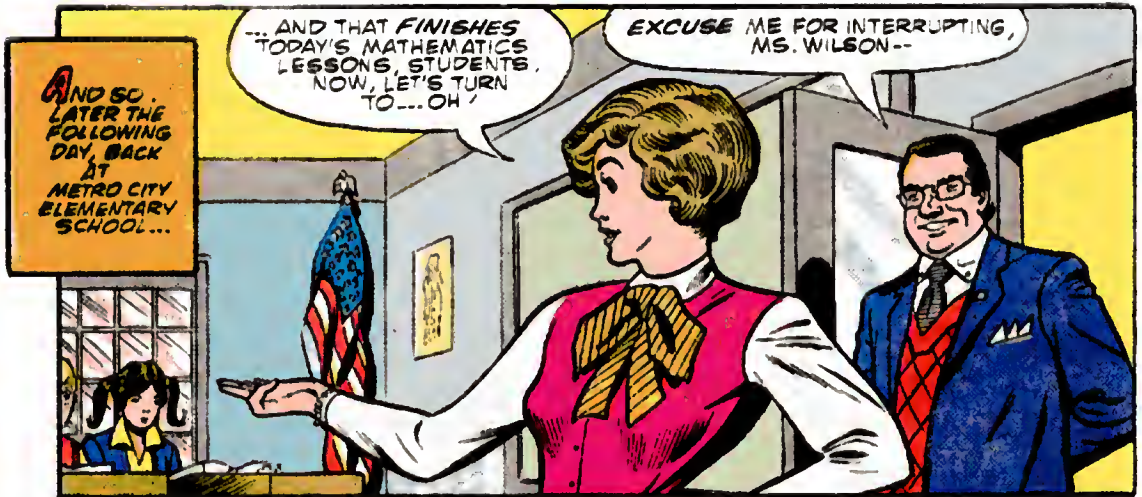
ARE LED TO THE HALL OF COMPUTERS AND THEIR PATIENT...













IT CERTAINLY IS, ALEC... THE VERY FIRST EDITION OF THE NEW METRO CITY SCHOOL NEWS...

...HOT OFF THE PRESSES, AS THEY SAY!

WOW!

IT LOOKS JUST LIKE A REAL NEWSPAPER!

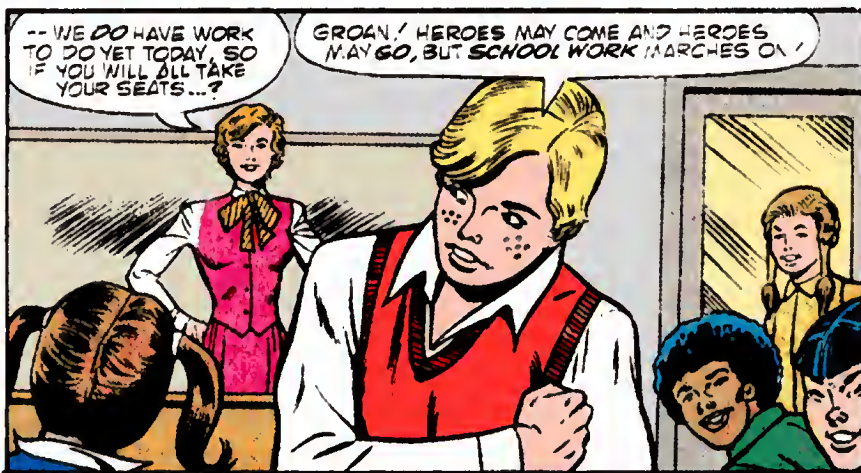
IT IS A REAL NEWSPAPER, SILLY!



WELL, I'M SURE YOU'VE STILL GOT LESSONS TO GIVE, MR. WILSON. SO I'LL BE OFF.

THANK YOU, MR. GREEN.

AND, CLASS, THE PRINCIPAL'S RIGHT--

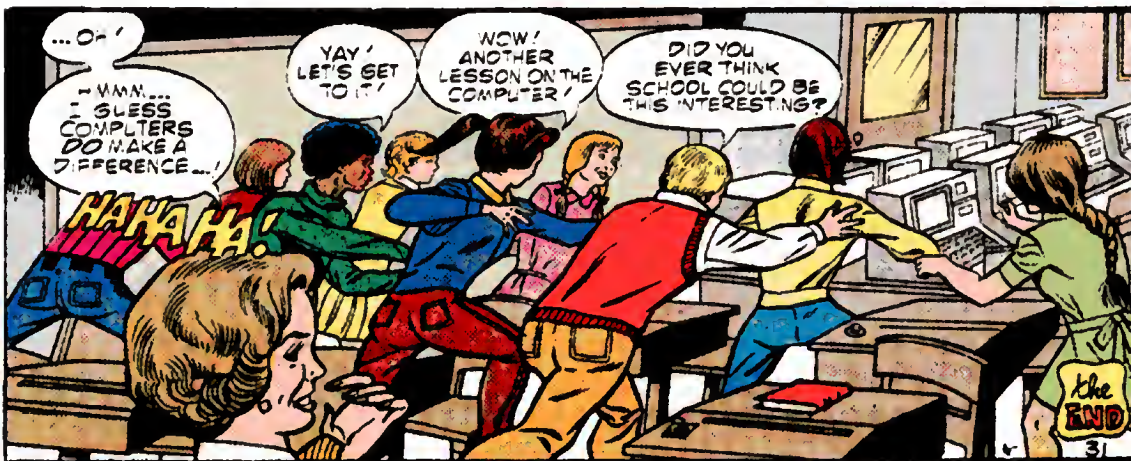


-- WE DO HAVE WORK TO DO YET TODAY, SO IF YOU WILL ALL TAKE YOUR SEATS...?

GROAN! HEROES MAY COME AND HEROES MAY GO, BUT SCHOOL WORK MARCHES ON!



DON'T BE SO GRUMPY, ALEC! YOU'VE ALWAYS LIKED LESSONS BEFORE WHEN WE USED THE NETWORK 3 CONTROLLER AND OUR MODEL 4'S!...



...MM...

- GLESS COMPTERS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...!

HAAAAA!

YAY! LET'S GET TO IT!

NOW! ANOTHER LESSON ON THE COMPUTER!

DID YOU EVER THINK SCHOOL COULD BE THIS INTERESTING?

The END
31

STUDENT'S GUIDE TO COMPUTER LANGUAGE

BACK-UP DISKETTE A "Safe Copy" made from the original diskette and kept in case of damage or destruction of data on the original diskette.

BASIC Beginner's All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code, a widely-used programming language.

BINARY A numbering system using only two digits, 0 and 1.

BIT The smallest unit a computer circuit can recognize.

BOOT UP To turn on a computer system (including all peripherals) and load an operating system or program.

BREAK To stop the execution of a program by pressing the key **BREAK** or by typing the word "STOP."

BYTE A combination of 8 consecutive binary digits.

CASSETTE An information storage medium composed of magnetic tape on a spool enclosed in plastic case.

COMMAND A function the computer performs upon your instructions.

CONTROL That section of a computer which directs the activity of all other sections.

CURSOR A flashing, white box on the screen which marks the location of the next letter or numeral.

DATA The information processed by a computer.

DEFAULT An action or value taken by a program if you do not specify which is to be used.

DIRECTORY A listing of the contents stored on a disk.

DISK A magnetic recording device for storage of data.

EDIT To change existing information.

ENTER The key on a keyboard that is pressed to enter data into the computer.

K or KILOBYTE The letter symbol for 1024 bytes.

MEMORY The section of a computer used for storage of information (also called data).

MENU A list of questions, or prompts, the answers to which determine how the computer will execute an instruction.

PASSWORD A file security option of up to 8 alphanumeric characters.

POWER UP To turn on the computer system (including all peripheral equipment).

PROGRAM The instructions that tell a computer how to process and deliver its answer or information.

PROMPTS Questions displayed on the screen which enable you to complete necessary instruction to the computer.

SCRIPSIT A program used in word-processing.



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